

# THE GENIUS ISSUE

# Esquire

MAN AT HIS BEST

IN WHICH WE DISCOVER  
WHAT

## GEORGE CLOONEY

MEANS TO THE  
future  
of the Planet

AND WE EXAMINE

### THE BEST

NEW INVENTIONS

AND

### BRIGHTEST

IDEAS, like the  
FUTURE OF DRIVING

AND A

Magical

DNA Scanner

AND SPACE LASERS,

yes, LASERS,

ALONG WITH A

SEARCH FOR THE

FUNDAMENTAL

## RULES OF THE UNIVERSE

DECEMBER 2006

and also of  
FOOTBALL

not to  
mention  
ONE MAN'S

### BRAVE

### QUEST

TO FIND A

good

### MOVIE

a great

### JOKE

and an

### WOMAN

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men



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**1811 GMT Automatic Chronograph**  
Powered by Ebel Caliber 102  
A chronograph in its own right, this watch features a white dial with a black sub-dial at 6 o'clock and a yellow hand. The watch is made of stainless steel with a black rubber strap.

**1811 GMT Automatic GMT**  
Powered by Ebel Caliber 102  
A GMT line that offers men a choice to sport the dynamic chronograph look, while providing a full 24-hour second time zone function. Overlaid GMT greenhand and dial large with 24-hour scale.

**1811 GMT Automatic Chronograph**  
Powered by Ebel Caliber 102  
A vision of time to a new level, this watch features a white dial with a black sub-dial at 6 o'clock and a yellow hand. The watch is made of stainless steel with a black rubber strap.

# EBEL

THE ARCHITECTS OF TIME



**1811 GMT Caliber 102**  
Automatic Chronograph in the new line with rubber strap and pushers, hand-selected alligator strap



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**EPA**

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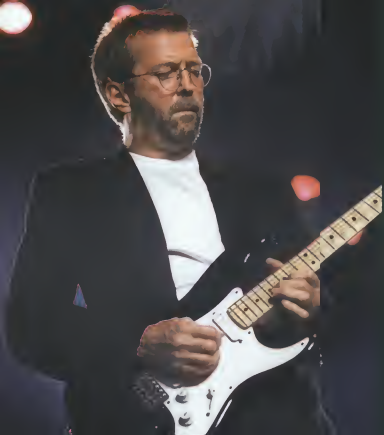
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Eric Clapton is one of music's most lasting figures, with a career spanning four decades. The power of Clapton's playing has garnered him fans from many generations, and helped him outlast nearly all of his contemporaries. And while Clapton always explores new genres and tendencies in his songs, the passion he puts into each note remains constant, making him as compelling today as the first time he took the stage.



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December 2006/vol 146/no 6

## BEST AND BRIGHTEST 2006

SOCIETY

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THE AGE OF  
RESILIENCE  
In a post-crash  
age, there's one  
thing for sure: the  
future of  
America is  
being written  
right now.

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PHILIP H. SCHULZ: The new capitalism



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DANIELA GILBERT  
DANIELA GILBERT  
DANIELA GILBERT

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STUART BOWEN

James Earl Ray's life and death

QUEST: THE  
WOMEN OF  
AMERICAA new series of  
women who are  
both changing the  
world and being  
changed by it.

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PAGE 216

QUEST: DRINK  
XOXO WOMAN  
A search through  
popular culture  
for the best  
of what women  
need (and want).

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DANIELA GILBERT  
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DANIELA GILBERT

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DANIELA GILBERT  
DANIELA GILBERT  
DANIELA GILBERTWHISPER  
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IN

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YOU DON'T  
KNOW ABOUT  
WOMEN (BY  
CARA DELANEY)

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THE MANIFESTO  
TO OF ASCEN-  
DANCY FOR  
THE MODERN  
AMERICAN  
WIDOWER  
(AN ESSAY BY  
JOHN HEDLEY)



THE NEEDLESS MAN

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A CHRISTMAS  
STORY A gift  
and a story every-  
body's loved the  
Original Film  
(BY SHERRY  
SHERMAN)

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THE SEXIEST  
WOMAN ALIVE HALL  
OF HEROES A look back  
at these years of exotica  
and strong women



THE GREAT  
LEVELER

Seven great  
women who  
why every  
man looks  
great in  
black-tie

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THIS  
WAY  
OUT  
THE MAKING OF THE MAKING OF PIRATES OF  
THE CARIBBEAN (BY JOHANN STON)



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"Haven't death sentences been issued for less? And will I have to be killed for repeating it? Will you have to be killed for printing it?"



October marked the debut of the *Esquire* 100, a list of people (Cory Booker), places (Los Ninos), and things (the thigh) we care about—and that we think you should care about, too. Based on the letters we received, you do care. How much and about what, though, was strangely disproportionate to our expectations (see below).

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE...

In his October article ("My Last Fifteen Things I Think Everyone Should Know," Brad Pitt pledged that he and Angelina Jolie will consider "only the kids when even going against the parking who wants to be married is legally able."

Jolie and Pitt have since again appropriated his word, their wedding to spotlight an ongoing problem in this instance, the issue of the increased privilege and the relegation of lesbian, gay, and bisexual people to second-class citizenship status in the United States.

WARREN BISHOPFIELD  
Ames, Iowa

## MAKING NO SENSE...

You make no sense. It clearly states in the Bible that marriage is between a man and a woman. Keep up the charity. It's a hard word and it's good sense but his personal opinions are not our issue.

KIM VAN STEVENEN  
Oberlin, Ohio

Have they also thought about adopting until everyone's hungry is satisfied? Please, no more Hollywood wisdom.

KARL BENJAMIN  
Lawing, Ark.

## OR JUST MAKING AN EXCUSE

That is the thinnest excuse I have ever heard. It'd be dumping him.

TRIANA GRAY  
Houston, Tex.

## AND ANOTHER THING

Pitt also assumed that only Joe who wanted to use drugs had the right to do so with a doctor's prescription.

Prohibition of drugs, just like that of alcohol during the era of Al Capone, is doomed to failure. What consenting adults consume, inhale, perform, read, or view in the privacy of their own homes or private social clubs isn't the concern of government. Individual economic and civil liberties prosper best when government stays out of both the bedroom and marketplace.

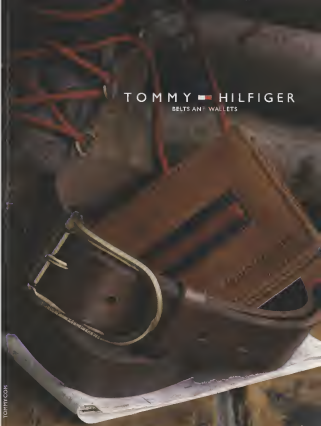
LARRY FENNER  
Great Neck, N.Y.

Pitt's view of the world from his new marriage must be partly to blame for his consumption of the drug war. In what fantasy world would anyone be able to use drugs without affecting anyone else in a less-than-good—corrupting others or driving under the influ-

## BRAD PITT'S BABY'S DIAPER-RASH PROBLEM: READERS WEIGH IN

A complaint from Brad Pitt about his daughter Shiloh's battle with diaper rash ("My Last Fifteen Things I Think Everyone Should Know," October) prompted a flood of panacea-touting e-mails, all promising the "magic ointment" Pitt desperately needs. Here, our readers' suggestions:

Terrific! Talk Thermostat Tintinnant aka Topazphant Day Rain-Haggle Top Diaper with about one half teaspoon of baking soda. Vaseline Creamer AP cream. Maltolite diaper cream. Dr. Smith's diaper ointment. Johnson's baby powder (the cream is dried-out and useless). Eucerin. Calademy powder. Diaper Carefree Moisture. Johnson's Baby cream. Diaper Guard. Plain water and a washcloth. Tugle Pacts and lots of plain white ointment. Goodness & But-Pac's. Sarsaparilla ointment. Eucerin. Vaseline. Water and soap. Sudocrem. Let the baby go without diapers for an entire day. Lotion. AP cream. She's a baby! ("My Last Fifteen Things I Think Everyone Should Know," October). Even good to use "moisturizing pads" and wash with Any-GIT cream, and avoid for good reflections in adult women. A better diaper rash cream. Chloromate cream. Lotion. Soothe ointment. by Cetus. Calademy. etc. etc. etc. Please suggest.



TOMMY HILFIGER  
BELTS AND WALLET







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FOR MEN



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John Wood

## Esquire: MAN AT HIS BEST

Special TV ENCORE  
Sunday, December 10, 8 pm ET/PT

It takes more than size and money for a man to be at his best. FINE LIVING TV NETWORK's *Esquire: Men at His Best* profiles remarkable personalities like John Wood, a former Microsoft executive who left his career to start a nonprofit that builds libraries in developing countries. Look into the lives of people like Frank Rong, a once rising hockey star who became paralyzed from the neck down, then established a foundation dedicated to research and assistance for spinal injury cases. Find out about incredible humanitarian like Warrick Dunn, an NFL football star who created Haven For The Holidays, an organization that assists single mothers in making their first home.



Travis Roy



Warrick Dunn

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(continued from page 36) that last. Many of the animals he rehabilitates have already tried reward-based training, and it has failed them. If something works and potentially saves the life of a beloved pet, who are you to tell them that what they are doing is wrong?

**STEVEY WILLEY**  
San Leandro, Calif.

As a twenty-five-year-old Muslim, I'll admit that I read your announcements of interest in the Koran with a fair amount of trepidation. But rereading Cesar Millan, the Dog Whisperer™, the "hassanist!"

**ZAN DARRAS**  
Cleveland, Ohio

Thanks for your recent discussion of the Dog Whisperer and his meth-

ods. Behavior problems are the number one reason dogs are put to sleep, and our pets deserve humane, gentle, and science-based methods to solve their problems.

**TERESA DEPOITTE**  
Clarkston, Mich

**SOUNDS LIKE YOU OWE US A LITTLE MORE THAN THAT**

Contributing editor Ken Korman recently suggested buying stock in GFI Group (The Portfolio, September). GFI's stock went up more than 7 percent today while the market went down. The options I bought on a thousand shares three days ago have doubled in value. Thank you. I am now going to acquire more options.

**E. J. VIANINI**  
Orangeburg, S.C.

**YEAH, BUT ONLY IF YOU RUN IT REAL SLOW AND GET RIGHT UP ON THE TV**

We tracked down free women actors (mostly unfamiliar with public exposure) in an attempt to crown Miss Unsuspected 2006 ("The Unsuspected Actress," October). To qualify, the women couldn't have appeared nude in film or had a private body part revealed in a paparazzi or red-carpet photo. Some readers questioned our hours of research. We'd be glad to do more.

Kristen Bell consulted? Guess you'll never see David Mazer's apartment.

**BRIAN CUNNINGHAM**  
Oakdale, Pa.

**OKAY, BUT NO ONE TELL FALL OUT BOY**

In our October article, Chuck Kaciorson questioned the number of members necessary for the steel rock band "Five Many Strangers Come To Take To Make an Orgy?" He thought four, his friend, five. The answer is five, and the reason is late AC/DC lead singer Bon Scott and the whole of the band's early career.



Thirsty? Turn to page 227...

REARVIEW MIRROR: PRODUCTS AND BEHAVIORS BY LUSTIG/GRUPP • MAG. 2006



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### THE SOUND AND THE FURY



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### Subjects: 100 men, Brazilians and 100 dogs – Old

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Having a tenth-year winery affords us the luxury of taking the long-term view. We believe it is critical to allow the earth the time to nurture itself. As a result, only half of the property we own is devoted to vines. Because it is not only our responsibility it is our duty to ensure the soil remains healthy. It matters for the long-term quality of our wines and the future success of our children. I have been told that many of you enjoy our wines but you aren't sure why. My goal is to help with **A Taste of the Truth**.

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Journal of Internal Medicine 258: 105–114

TOURNAMENT



For men who appreciate tradition and like to even better transition to modern, high-performance styles and fabrics, there's a new label to check out at Stein Mart. Offering quality and value with an English sensibility, T. Harris London™ is a welcome fusion of American practicality and British sartorial savoir-faire—body-conscious cuts, precision tailoring, heritage shades and patterns. The new line is broad—and appealingly affordable. Locations at 1-800-888-1888 or [www.steinmart.com](http://www.steinmart.com).

### Stress Management

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Illustration 26 is by artist John Howard Thomas.



▲ The Baker playing left with one of his oldest friends who brought in a party used card that was donated to Cancer Care. ▲ John Smith, Managing Director of Cancer Care. The Baker and Danny Pughman, Anthony & Nappier's son of Thomas and Catherine. Sides. ▲ William's Aunt Janet Dwyer Mother. Anne Davis, President of RFLMBA and Captain's Lafferty and a 1970 football player. The Center. ▲ The Georgian High School members of the team played in the season. ▲ The group of four boys from the Anderson & Nappier family. ▲ The group of students from the Anderson & Nappier family. ▲ The group of students from the Anderson & Nappier family.





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LOUIS VUITTON

# The Front

## MAN AT HIS BEST

FUNNY\*  
JOKE  
FROM A  
BEAUTIFUL  
WOMAN

Also told by  
**PATLA PATTON**

How often authors don't make the change  
at all? 100%

Five, time to clean up the ladder and screw it in, and four to my. That should have been me."

#### ABOUT THE JOOSTEN

after graduating from the USC film school. *Prisoners* isn't her first independent production. Her second, an award-winning short film, *Chloe*, was shown at the Venice Film Festival. "I was in the film for the first time, and I was like, 'Oh my God, I'm in a movie!'" she says. "It's such a surreal experience." *Prisoners* is a thriller about a kidnapping. "I think the main character of kidnapping the boy and the girl—their parents—will be the focus. But I think the parents will be the most interesting characters. I think the parents will be the most interesting characters. I think the parents will be the most interesting characters."

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TO STAY YOUR.



MOVIE  
MUSIC  
BOOK  
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LIFE

# POLO

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# The Leisure Meter

HOW TO WULF WERF YOUR FREE TIME THIS MONTH

**Celebrating** the season while businesses yawn for Christmas: the new holiday albums from M8 & Queens + Labor



**Appreciating** the season, when it's enjoyed watching on-line recordings: *"Man on the Moon"* 2 minutes

**Teasing** us to the line dance wonder of the new *Frank Chicka* (a six-part Sundance Channel documentary series about gay folk in the Midwest) and *Frank Chicka* (a six-part Sundance Channel documentary series about gay folk in the Midwest) and *Frank Chicka* (a six-part Sundance Channel documentary series about gay folk in the Midwest) 30 minutes (x3)

**Feeling** that the new season is just about to start, as much as the fact that it's a new Christmas album 30 seconds



**Watching** *The Good Shepherd*, another about a personal CIA operative on the early days of the agency, starring Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie, and Robert De Niro, who is directed 3 hours

**Realizing** a clarifying, sometimes strange for the ever available *Don Pease* (a Clarifying, sometimes strange for the ever available *Don Pease*) 30 seconds



**Realizing** that the new season is just about to start, as much as the fact that it's a new Christmas album 30 seconds

**AGAINST THE DAY**  
THOMAS PYNCHON

**Reading** the new season, when it's enjoyed watching on-line recordings: *"Man on the Moon"* 2 minutes



**Attending** a day of competition in the *Wrangler* (a six-part Sundance Channel documentary series about gay folk in the Midwest) and *Frank Chicka* (a six-part Sundance Channel documentary series about gay folk in the Midwest) 30 minutes (x3)

**Feeling** that the new season is just about to start, as much as the fact that it's a new Christmas album 30 seconds

## GEOFFREY BEENE

DRESS SHIRTS





# StYLEAGENDA

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# Americana (Done Three Ways)



▲ **HIGH** After the Flood by Robert Polidon (Skendi, \$50)

Almost 600 images of a devastated New Orleans in the weeks immediately following Hurricane Katrina. Polidon's pictures are a mix of forward and almost clinical, a somber reminder.

▲ **MEDIUM** Levittal by David Levittal (Eclipse Editions, \$50)  
Using hand-painted figurines, Levittal re-creates historic moments in baseball like Kirk Coby's World Series home run and Willie Mays' over-the-shoulder catch. The results look more like miniature stage photographs.

## LOVE

► **The Pop-Up Book of Celebrity Meltdowns**, by Bruce Foster, Mick Cullis, and Heather Weisling (Melcher Media, \$30)  
Make the pretentious head bobber Hugh Grant's ear or Kate Winslet's eyelid back as the victim a drooping eyebrow. You probably won't want to display it, but you'll want to show it to everyone who'll let you.



## Big Important Book of the Year JAMES WHO?

JAMES MADISON has been elevated. Here we are, our best-seller lists occasionally looking like a catalog for the Founder of the Month Club with three books on Alexander Hamilton and ones that ensemble old is better (like John Adams getting the new law, legal treatment, and pen there doesn't seem to be even a single beam of spotlight left for the devious hypochondriac who overthrew the first American government). I shall not go to his having been a real macho, a penologist, a slave. Or all we can turn the White House on your watch, it plays hell with your legacy. Nevertheless, Madison did more than anyone else to create the American idea, which is for us to consider the American nation.

Richard Labaree's book, *James Madison and the Struggle for the Bill of Rights* (Oxford University Press, \$30), doesn't reinvent the Constitutional Convention, which Madison elegantly threaded away from the dysfunctional Articles of Confederation and toward a whole new form of representative government. Rather, it describes a monumental example of what today we would simply call a flip-flop, in which Madison changed his mind with the necessity of looking for a Bill of Rights to the new Constitution. Among other things, this required him to get elected to the new Congress over the rabid opposition of no less a figure than Patrick Henry, who became Madison's friend and fellow future governor, James Monroe. Once elected, Madison carefully crafted and nurtured the new and different, but became what we know as the Bill of Rights. At the very least, Labaree's book is valuable in describing in detail that whatever today seems to be lost or too long away.

—CHARLES P. PIERCE

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MAN AT HIS BEST

# THE GUIDE

FOOD // DRINKING // SEX // ANSWER FELLA // THE BETTER MAN // WOMEN // STYLE

GIVING



## The All-Meat Gift Guide

ALL YOU NEED TO SAY IS "HAPPY HOLIDAYS LIKE A BEEF BOY MEAT HERE."  
FIVE WAYS TO SHOW A CAREWOMAN YOU CARE BY FRANCHIE MANSUEAN

THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN meat is a long one. It's a story of a nation that has always been a meat lover. From the early days of the frontier to the modern era, meat has been a staple of the American diet. And now, it's time to give the women in your life the gift of meat. Here are five ways to show a carewoman you care.



Yeast, maybe it's spunk and bubbly and slightly girly. But the best of all is the fact that it's the best vintage of the best of all. For the firmest, most delicious of vintage fruits, applied by many across the globe, the fact is, as water, how much water you've piled on your plate. #400-6774pkins.com.



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NOT A MOMENT MISSED

stainless steel  
rubber strap  
second hand - notched

NORDSTROM



**Saichon** *saichon* *saichon* is a coarse, red, tubular, with a thick, white, papery, and nutmeg. The park comes from the joint Korean pig, which is harvested for three months prior to slaughter on a diet that fall from the park oak forest in the woodlands of southern Spain. Yeah, it's a little specific, but the results more than live up to the hype. [www.sauvage.com](http://www.sauvage.com) (800-626-4162).



A photograph showing 12 sausages arranged in a circular pattern on a wooden surface. The sausages are browned and appear to be cooked. The arrangement is a ring of 12 sausages, with some slightly overlapping. The background is a light-colored wooden surface with visible grain.

if the mix, such as this, as elegant **sausage** here it is, rest assured, but still completely flavorful links from Gardener's California, ex-husband **Paul Bertolli**, formerly of Casa Pinette and Oliveto. Both classic (see end of article) and spicy (see end of article) preparations are coarsely ground, stuffed into tubes of hog casings, and hand-tyed in low-sauce links. \$12.50 for 5 pounds. (Freeze.com, 510-528-7900)



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\*4-cyl/141hp mpg 24/32 20-cyl/241hp 24/32. <sup>†</sup>Insurance.com's Best Overall Honda Award in 2007. MSRP excludes tax, title, license and destination charge. For the complete picture visit [Accord.honda.com](http://Accord.honda.com) or call 1-800-33-Honda. ©2007 Honda Motor Co., Ltd.





## THE GUIDE • STYLE

## The New Badge

In the modern business-formal climate, the French cuff and its attendant cuff link are the new markers of professionalism. A well-chosen link will say as much about you across a conference room as a watch. Or a pocket square. Or a furtive wink.

Clockwise from top left: Shirt cuff by Barneys (gold) link (\$1.19) by Paul Stuart; Cuff by Charles Tyrwhitt silver cuff link (\$25) by Perry Ellis; Cuff by Charles Tyrwhitt silver-and-black onyx cuff link (\$250) by Dunhill; Cuff by Eagle silver cuff link (\$400) by Kenneth Cole; Cuff by Fry silver-and-onyx cuff link (\$600) by Charles Tyrwhitt; Cuff by Kitten silver-and-onyx cuff link (\$400) by Dugout; Cuff by Van Heusen silver-and-black diamond cuff link (price available on request) by Giorgio Armani; Cuff by Charles Tyrwhitt gold cuff link (\$1,450) by Dugout.

## A HIERARCHY OF CUFF LINKS

Use this handy guide to sort your cuff links into convenient piles.



**The Silk Knot** ▲  
Often free with shirts, they don't link long, but they add nice flair. For evening. Silk knot cuff link (\$15) by Turnbull & Asser.



**The Bar and Rocker** ▲  
The most common form of cuff links and their sales is the Cing Silver-and-black-onyx cuff link (\$20) by Bulgari.



**The Barbell** ▲  
Must a bit of effort, giving weight to a cuff. Gold-and-silver cuff link (\$1,950) by Tiffany & Co.



**The Chain Link** ▲  
The most elegant. And the most tricky. Silver cuff link of pearl-and-onyx cuff link (\$200) by Charles Tyrwhitt.

LOOK WHO WE'VE GOT OUR HANES ON NOW



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Wrapped in soft cotton. Tagless. It's comfort, converted.



IF YOU CAN MOVE COMFORTABLY, YOU CAN MOVE UNCOMFORTABLY.

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HANES.COM

## THE GUIDE • STYLE



# OBSESSION OF THE MONTH

## THE OLIVER SPENCER JACKET

**LONDON-BASED** Oliver Spencer speaks to us in reviving traditional clothes (jackets, overcoats) and garments (uniforms, classic overcoats) and mixing them for a modern clientele. Witness his classic short overcoat in a Victorian tweed pattern—which looks great with jeans. Double-breasted wool jacket (\$995) by Oliver Spencer available at the designer's new store in Manhattan.



# UNLIKELY STYLE ICON OF THE MONTH

## Bamford & Sons

AN OUTSCAPE KIND OF LOGIC makes its way from the Bamford family (as come behind CEO one of Britain's biggest manufacturers of earth-moving equipment) to Bamford & Sons, a new brand of luxury men's clothing. Unlike other heavy-duty workwear brands, Bamford is concerned with the patina of lifestyle. It's a pragmatic success has created "The collection blends classic British preoccupations like what to wear with your waders, with an Italianate sense of modern functional luxury. Three-button wool overcoat (\$1,200), wool sweater (\$395), cotton shirt (\$295), and wool trousers (\$395) by Bamford & Sons.

# THE VISUAL ARGUMENT

## Collar Up



Wilder, D. | Wells, G. | Newman, P. | MacBee, M.C.

# THE ADDRESS

## Paul Smith

British men's wear's greatest fashion expert, Sir Paul Smith has taken classic British style and reinvented it. His latest U.S. venture, in a variable manner, is a variable store in New York but he is an important big enough to work, benefits members of the object of art, an impact from men and women. In fact, for example, that have come to the brand as much as the clothing. Bamford & Sons, 142 Greene Street, New York, paulsmith.com



# PRADA

## Parfums

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Available at Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Prada Boutiques



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PRADA

SOME SEE A  
PLACE ON A MAP



SOME SEE A PLACE IN HISTORY

Using the finest local ingredients and a revolutionary brewing technique, our visionary brewmaster discovered what many describe as the authentic, true taste of beer—full-flavored and gloriously bitter-sweet. It was a discovery that put the beer of Pilsen on the map, and the world's first golden beer is now around the globe.

Discover how beer is meant to taste. Discover Pilsner Urquell.

*Discover how beer  
is meant to taste.*



THE GUIDE **STYLE**

TRAVEL

The  
Globe-Trotter  
Suitcase

GLOBE-TROTTER has been making suitcases just outside London for more than 100 years using its secret weapon: vulcanized fiber-based Wilko (a sort of super cardboard). It's layers of paper that when made into a case are as light as aluminum but as tough as leather. The design of these cases hasn't changed since 1887, and such heritage doesn't come cheap—though Globe-Trotter's simplicity and robustness move the cream-colored heavy-duty leather ones often by dozens. And they age gracefully, too. 866.5.8935 and 71.200.globe-trotter.com

THE ADDRESS ▶

TIMOTHY  
EVEREST

Everest is a craftsman in the heart of London's fashion tradition, by Savile Row's first maverick, the late Tommy Nutter. Now firmly established in London's West End, Everest makes his retail foray in New York with his store in the chic and Burbank. This month the top floor of its downtown headquarters at 415 West 13th Street will be turned into a retail space stocked with brands handpicked by Burbank founder Michael Gordon. There, Everest will offer made-to-measure clothing and ready-to-wear pieces. Three-piece wool suit (starting at \$3,000), cotton shirt (starting at \$250) and silk tie (starting at \$140) by Timothy Everest.



A FRAGRANCE FOR MEN

## PRADA BY PRADA

PRADA LAUNCHES its Pour Homme fragrance for fall with a surprisingly classic flavor. The complex smell combines clean and fresh notes with leathery woody ingredients—four principal fragrance groups that smell good and masculine together in a short-burst-and-sweet at the barbers' kind of way. \$90 for 3.4 oz. available at major department stores.

The Haircut Rules  
OUR GROOMING EXPERT RODNEY  
CUTLER GIVES YOU HOW NOT TO LOOK LIKE  
A BUFF, IF THE SALON

► Tip your stylist at least 50 percent, 20 percent or more around the holidays will get you special consideration the rest of the year for things like fresh shaves and jawline waxing. For your hair needs, 5 percent is plenty.

► If you're offering a drink, it's a sure bet to get your coffee. It's a sure bet to get your coffee. It's a sure bet to get your coffee.

► If you're not a smoker, look at your cell phone. It's a sure bet to get your coffee. It's a sure bet to get your coffee.

► While it's a sure bet to get your coffee. It's a sure bet to get your coffee. It's a sure bet to get your coffee.

► Never come straight from the gym. A year's worth of the appeal of your hair is the result of how you sweat it out. So, never come straight from the gym. A year's worth of the appeal of your hair is the result of how you sweat it out.

► No matter how beautiful you feel, it's never okay to pull a back of a woman's hair.

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## THE GUIDE • STYLE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

THREE  
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FOR  
YOUR  
SUIT(THAT AREN'T  
THE OLD RAZR)

The pangon of cell-phone lightness and slenderness used to be the Razer. These three phones are either lighter or smaller or both.

SAMSUNG BLACK  
CARBON (SLIDER)

9499, samsung.com  
16.5 oz.

## Dimensions:

4.57 inches long,  
2 inches wide

Thickness: 1.6  
credit cards

Weight: 5.0 oz.

Pocket: Tuxedo

## SAMSUNG TRACE

9300 with two-year  
contract, 1-mobility.com

## Dimensions:

4.45 inches long,  
2 inches wide

Thickness: .7  
credit cards

Weight: 2.5 oz.

Pocket: Your  
jacket's breast pocket

Pocket: Tuxedo

## MOTOROLA (FOLD)

9200 with two-year  
contract, motorola.com

## Dimensions:

4.25 inches long,  
3.75 inches wide

Thickness: 1.5 (credit  
card) (folded)

Weight: 3.6 oz.  
lighter than the  
other two

Pocket: Tuxedo

UTILITY  
Record  
Sleeves

While the *Old World* of hemming and sewing adds to the pleasure of clothes, it's also a pain. So it's no wonder that actually making sense of the jacket—when high-tech outdoor gear is involved—is a pain. The *Record* jacket, made of a lightweight, tear-resistant fabric, is perfect for skiing. Your iPod stays snug in the waterproof plastic pocket inside the jacket. However, the controls just aren't that forward-sloped and shuffly, so you may want to use your left thumb. The jacket also boasts some of the art-leather waterproof pockets and fully taped seams to keep the wet out. *Record* jacket (\$750) by Zegna Sport.

MATERIAL OF THE MONTH  
Stainless Steel

**STAINLESS STEEL** is a durable, lightweight material used in many designs. It's also used in a limited-edition of the *Record* jacket. The jacket is made of a polyester-blend material, sprayed with stainless steel as a finish. The jacket is currently \$750. It's available in a limited-edition of the *Record* jacket (\$750) by Zegna Sport. It's available at the *Record* jacket store in New York.



## THE VISUAL ARGUMENT

TECHNOLOGY IS NOT A FASHION ACCESSORY  
Now that you've removed your cell-phone belt clip, avoid these as well:



iPod lanyard



Bluetooth headset



Bluetooth headphones



Marques belt buckle

WORK

WEEKEND

DRESS

GOLF

THE IRON FREE COTTON KHAKI

DOCKERS

SAN FRANCISCO

jagourney &amp; jcp.com/dockers

WORK WEEKEND DRESS GOLF

THE ICONIC KHAKI

**DOCKERS**

SAN FRANCISCO

[jcpenny.com/dockers](http://jcpenny.com/dockers)

WORK WEEKEND DRESS GOLF

THE FINE WOOL BLEND PANT

**DOCKERS**

SAN FRANCISCO

[DockersStore.com](http://DockersStore.com)

WORK WEEKEND

THE GOLF

DOCKERS

SAN FRANCISCO

[Bose.com/lifestyle](http://Bose.com/lifestyle)

## Hear the difference Bose® technologies make.

Without the detail of lifelike surround sound, you miss the full experience movies and music have to offer. That's why the new Lifestyle® 48 DVD home entertainment system is engineered with unique Bose® technologies and designed to exceed your expectations.

For example, as you may have experienced, some rooms can make even the most expensive system sound like one worth half the price. Room size, shape and furnishings all affect the sound from any system. To address this problem, Bose has developed the ADAPTiQ® audio calibration system to bring more lifelike sound to almost any room.

The new Lifestyle® 48 system also features a redesigned Acoustimass® module that utilizes our proprietary technology. So you experience the impact of today's movie soundtracks from a compact unit that's 30% smaller than the original.

The Lifestyle® 48 system allows you to store over 300 hours of your favorite CDs. And another unique Bose technology, the uMusic® intelligent playback system, actually learns what you like and dislike in your collection so that it can select tracks for you automatically.

When the original was introduced, Men's Fitness said, "The Lifestyle® 48 is home-entertainment perfection." To fully appreciate the difference Bose technologies make, we invite you to experience the new Lifestyle® 48 system for yourself. And hear why Bose is the most respected name in sound.

**Purchase a Lifestyle® 48 system  
by February 3, 2007, and receive a  
Wave® radio II as our gift.**

### NEW Bose® Lifestyle® 48 Series III DVD home entertainment system



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## THE GUIDE • GIFTS FOR WOMEN

7 THINGS THAT  
WILL MAKE HER  
LIKE YOU MORE

WE ASKED GALS who know something about this gift-giving stuff—salaries at women's magazines, personal shoppers, our own fashionistas—to help us help you shop for the women in your life. BY KATHLEEN WILSON



► **Holt Regino,**  
from *Elle*,  
the gift that gives  
back. The \$60,  
gorgeous \$80, vintage-  
inspired one.

► **The J Crew**  
should give  
you a gift that  
says "you don't tell  
her that, J.Crew,  
own it."



► **London's**  
**Miles at One**  
**Recess** is worth the  
Miles at One  
Recess is worth the  
Miles at One  
Recess is worth the  
Miles at One



► **Kate Spade**  
and more.  
The first thing you  
see will be yours.  
The first thing you  
see will be yours.  
The first thing you  
see will be yours.



► **As Ray**  
**Ber-**  
**row** is **Stal**  
**and** **From**  
**Bag**  
**to** **Riches**, she's all  
riches and more  
riches and more  
riches and more



► **Mosses**  
**Have** **the**  
**pink** **and** **black**  
**lets** **Riches**  
**her** **the** **the**  
**the** **the** **the**  
**the** **the** **the**



► **The**  
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RIVIERA



## THE GUIDE • THE BETTER MAN



## UNDER PRESSURE

TERRELL ISN'T DEPRESSED. WHY WOULD HE BE? HE'S GOT A MAGICAL HEALING MACHINE.

**A** wishes have forever been screaming up innovative ways to get ahead—going back to the Greeks lifting heavy rocks and extending over time to dumbbells. Make Air, straddle the cone, and the clear. Add this to the list: portable hyperbaric chambers. The chambers are essentially body-length airtight bags that look like coffee and are filled with highly pressurized air. The idea is to hang out for a couple hours under increased pressure, which helps more oxygen get to damaged tissues and thereby speeds up muscle healing. The prescription-based portable Chamber is, which can go up to 320-330 psi (TGA approved only to treat high-altitude sickness, but that hasn't stopped professional athletes such as Terrell Davis and Lance Armstrong from using them as part of their conditioning. There is little scientific evidence about how effective the chambers actually are for athletes, but Spencer Falkenstein, the founder of a Hawaii-based company that sells them, thinks that there is enough anecdotal evidence to make the little coffers catch on with the working public. "It will help the body heal at a rate as if the person were younger than they are," he says. Who can resist becoming back like a little kid again? —MICHAEL BODENWALD



How can I make myself less susceptible to colds?

Don't bother with chicken, studies show that it doesn't work. You're better off focusing on what you eat. The best foods during cold and flu season are vitamin-B6-rich ones like salmon, bananas, and avocados, which help maintain the levels of organs that make infection-fighting white blood cells. Load up on apples, tomatoes, and berries as well, and watch the fat-saturated, power-L-lysine, inflammatory substances that strengthen your immune system.

At the same time, cut down on trans fats and saturated fats. Sugar acts as a big immune-suppressant, too! That's why people who get a solid series around Christmas. They're consuming more sugar than usual, so their bodies are more vulnerable to the virus than earlier in the year. So you have a similar effect, which you might remember from that time you got the flu during finals.

If you're a reasonably healthy guy under the age of 30, don't try to avoid the flu by getting a flu shot. You're actually better off giving the virus so you can build up an immunity to it. If you're wind up getting sick, you can have the flu shot. The only foods that would be the trick are ones containing a lot of vitamin C. And, of course, your stress levels should drop.

Mehmet Oz is a self-proclaimed "The Smart Patient" (see page 215).



## WILL WORK FOR FOOD

**THIS THANKSGIVING**, before you smother Nam's hand away from the last piece of pie, at least know what you're committing to.

Serving	1	2	3	4	5	6
14 ounces turkey 1 cup stuffing (1,044 calories)	1 1/2 cups mashed potatoes, 3/4 cup gravy (323 cal)	2 slices cranberry sauce (172 cal)	1 cup green beans (42 cal)	1 slice pecan pie (302 cal)	1 SpicSpan Turkey dinner (865 cal)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
10 minutes on the treadmill	54 minutes chewing gum	2.5 hours pumpkin pie	60 minutes watching Football	1,250 steps	None. We're going to deprive you of turkey.	

**HUMMER**  
LIKE NOTHING ELSE.

## THE GUIDE • ANSWER FELLA

## Flossing, How to Be an Actor &amp; Why Boobs &amp; Sports Don't Mix

FIGURE 5 ANSWER FELLA believes that there are no stupid questions, just stupid people who don't ask questions. Hearing they think stupid, he asks Answer Fella anything. If he doesn't know the answer he'll find out who does or whether anyone has heard right.

#### Why do so many female athletes have small breasts?

Answer Fella dreams of a new world that brings us true gender equality and no more lip service and a world where anyone in any sport can get so sweet sick that each woman of her flesh gets up and the hands of her sports bra as if yearning to be free and ours like you'll smell no more on her wee mums and that our food food ripples.

Meanwhile, a bodacious pair of experts offers AF a couple of very dangling theories. Deanne Vackauer, women's track coach at the University of California, Davis—who also coached at the 2008 Olympics—notes that “as female athletes get stronger and add more lean muscle mass, the extralayer of fat on the hips and buttocks is one of the things that goes.” In short, as muscles grow, fat shrinks.

Meanwhile, Spigelli, a professor of American studies at Columbia University and coauthor of *The David Book: An Intimate and Carnal History* says, “The one answer is self-selection.” In regular folks, it’s the physical discomfort of playing sports; with a large rack and also the accompanying psychological discomfort. “Being looked at if you get large breasts,” Spigelli adds “is a different experience on the playing field. You want to be invisible, a skilled, graceful athlete, you don’t want to feel that all eyes are on your boobs.”

Roger that, Professor Spigelli. And it’s not just eyes, either. “You’ve got guys imagining all kinds of stuff,” says Mike, a young part neckbeard and gang motor boater—and there just plain wrong, dammit.

#### Can I be a successful actor without becoming an actor?

Starting an acting career at the age of 34, writer Barry Martinov, author of *An Actor’s Life* and a practicing talent scout in Los Angeles, “is like starting a water-bus 20 hours after the other nuclear show left. Acting is one of the toughest careers around.”

But Caroline McGee, director of the Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute, suggests that you grow that out the rest of your life. “You have to be a student,” she tells AF. “If you start now,” she tells AF. “By the time you’re 40, you’ll be coming into your prime.” She advises you to start with a search for a good acting teacher, take classes, study and practice the craft, read and watch plays, and above all, take time and stay strong. “Recognize that this is what I love,” she urges, “and you will stop me, and I will get what I need to succeed.”

Or try the simple five-step program put forth by Rudy Stone, who somehow found the time to share his wisdom with AF’s crank reporter. “First,”



start looking for apartments in Remuda.”

2. Find your spouse a job. “Your wife has got to be collecting cash to pay for your rent.”

3. Find an acting coach. “Be sure to not let take a lot of work and definitely some talent.”

4. Exercise. “It’s California—you have to look good, feel good.”

5. Do a few trigger exercises, then quickly fade into Gerni stuff. It worked for Rudy.

#### My girlfriend saw an episode of the show in which an expert said that too much flossing was bad for you. True?

“I can set up a machine,” says Dr. Mark Wolff, a professor at the College of Dentistry at New York University, “that runs an artificial floss 40 times, 60 hours, 200 hours, and yes, I can make it wear a spot on the tooth. But that is not what we do in reality.”

“If you floss after every meal, that’s not doing damage. That’s not excessive. If you spend 23 minutes trying to polish the side of every tooth with a piece of dental floss, that would not be a good thing to do.”

Dr. Wolff is far too kind to add that sticking with a woman who watches *The View*—especially after the web bubs that on *Star Trek*—is also not a good thing to do.

When I wear a jacket and slacks of different colors, my blouse with big a slacks, for instance, should my socks match the slacks or the socks?

AF, who has trouble matching his shoes to his feet, turns to Eugene’s fashion director, Nick “Zack” Sullivan.

“Usually you want to match the color of the socks to the color of the trousers, as it makes the visual effect of lengthening your legs and making you look taller. In casual situations, this is less important, though, suggest always keeping the socks at least in the same ballpark as the pants.”

Zack is far too kind to mention that sitting pants slacks has the somewhat effect of making you seem like a couch bag. “You can,” however, sit on a cushion.

Get a question? Send it to Answer Fella via e-mail: [afella@esquire.com](mailto:afella@esquire.com).

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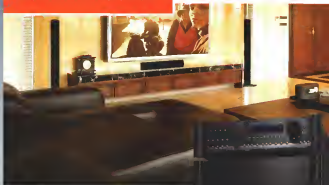
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## Surfing with the Alien

At least until Google runs it, YouTube is bringing back rock virtuosity. Welcome home, Yngwie Malmsteen.



AT 9,004:16 POINT during the past year, I assume you have consumed a news story regarding YouTube.com. This assumption is based on the fact that there have been 35,379,900 stories about YouTube.com written in 2006, roughly 20 percent of which were then read aloud into the lens of a camera phone and posted on YouTube.com.

These articles fall into three general categories:

1) "This reporter thinks YouTube is awesome."

2) "This reporter believes the content of YouTube is insane."

3) "This reporter finds YouTube to be insane in a specifically awesome way, and is going to revolutionize everything, even though no one (including this reporter) is quite sure how that will work."

I HAVE YET to meet a person (who is not a copyright lawyer) who hates YouTube for any reason whatsoever. YouTube is slightly less popular than MySpace, but currently has a higher approval rating than Ford. And while I'm still unsettled as to what compels the average citizen to upload the understated credits of *Blondie in the Glass* onto a Web site he doesn't own, I completely understand why other people enjoy watching such clips. It kills time, and it makes it infinitely easier to experience the past (and there are the things that make life worth living). Moreover, I've started to notice another positive aspect of this technology, and it's something I would

have never anticipated. Completely by accident, YouTube is fostering the rediscovery of rock virtuosity, particularly as it applies to the guitar.

Several months ago, *The New York Times* ran a story about a hyperpopular YouTube file that is simply titled "guitar." The file shows a young Anton Diffrin whose face cannot be seen, he wordlessly performs a rock version of John McVie's "Crown of Thorns." It's an astonishingly complex song that necessitates a mixed guitar technique called "sweeping."<sup>1</sup> The crux of the story centered on who this unknown wonderchild was (he turned out to be a twenty-three-year-old Jewish Korean named Jeong Hyon-Lam) and it noted a minor controversy about the validity of his performance. It was all mildly interesting. However, the questions

I found more interesting were these: What prompted people to view this video 9.6 million times? Since who told people who aren't themselves guitarists suddenly care about classical rock guitar? And why did I watch Jeong Hyon-Lam play "Crown of Thorns" five times in one night, especially considering how rarely I listen to (or even think about) this kind of music?

One of the fine YouTube clips I never saw was lost footage of a godhead as solo Prince performed at the 2004 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony, just last month. I was sent a YouTube file of a ten-year-old playing Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir." Amazingly, both were screaming. But if these performances had been given to me as MP3 files, I wouldn't have cared about either. I would have burned to the Prince track once and given the Zeppelin completely. This illustrates one of the depressing paradoxes about

<sup>1</sup>[youtube.com/watch?v=Q4J6ZF2QAS](http://youtube.com/watch?v=Q4J6ZF2QAS) "Sweeping" requires the musician to rapidly press and release notes on the fret board in order to create blurring progressions. It's not something that can be done usually, sweeping is a virtuosity skill that can only be achieved through "unreliable talent," i.e., compulsively practicing the move over and over and over and over and over and over and over again.

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Photo: [illegible]



By Dana Delany



1. A private plane will not make up for the fact that you have bad breath.
2. You know that one time you let your guy friend blow you? Tell your stink, not us.
3. Text messaging is for children and people who are having affairs. Don't be either.
4. If you just listen and let her cry, it will lead to deep, wet, soulful sex. If you like that kind of thing.
5. Never wear cologne. We love a clean smell. Plus, it interferes with the Cheval Blanc. *—Ed*
6. We like younger men for the same reasons you like younger women: stamina and skin.
7. There are two spots on women that need to be touched more: the back of the neck and the lower back. *—Fireworks*
8. There's something about a man who is a good dancer, calm, good at fixing levers when he's going, gets in and out of situations gracefully, knows when to speed up and slow down, invariably he's good in bed. Does this man in the *Twinklers* are great levers? *—Helen... not to self*
9. You know that thing about men biting butlers? We don't buy that as an excuse to screw around.
10. Never send red roses. That's such a cliché. A simple wildflower will get you where you need to be.
11. Don't try to figure us out. We don't even understand ourselves. Just think of us as complex carbohydrate that's good for you.
12. We need you. Because a vibrating piece of plastic can't kiss.

Dana Delany stars as Ellie Cow on the drama *Red Taped*, which airs Saturday on NBC.



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# The Manifesto of Ascendancy for the Modern American Nigger

For eleven days in 2001, two blacks ran our country. It's their example and their achievement—and not the culture of failure fomented by the leftovers of the Movement—that must set a new agenda for black Americans. *By John Ridley*



**LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT NIGGERS** the expected, anarchy within our majority. Always down. Always out. Always complaining their day isn't catchallright. Niggerstake poor about doing for themselves. Constantly in need of a leader but unable to follow in any direction that's suggested by hard work, self-reliance. And though they split windshield and prostate their way onto welfare doles and WIC lines, niggers will tell you their nation belongs to finally their own. They are not responsible for their credit's percent (a recession rate and their 9.2 percent unemployment rate. Not responsible for the 22.2 percent rate at which they drop out of high school. For the 68.3 percent of blacks they create out of welfare.

Now, let me tell you something about my generation of black Americans. We are the inheritors of "the Deal." Received upon the entrance of white social, political, and legal establishment when my parents' generation was the struggle for civil rights. The Deal. We (blacks) take what is rightfully ours and put the above-described establishment (get citizens who will invest the same energy and dedication into rising, lowering, and working hard and being all around good people as was involved in snatching the neck of Jim Crow.

In the forty years since the Deal was handed out, since the Voting Rights Act was signed, there have been successes for blacks. But there is still too many blacks in prison, too many kids applying for the dole, and way too many African-Americans doing far too little with the opportunities others carved for them.

If we as a race could win the centuries' long war against institutionalized racism, why is it that so many of us cannot secure the advantage after decades of freedom?

That which is retained as is the worst of "us," those who choose action as random or passivity way of an internal exposure and physical act—in who cannot value the posture of an "nigger," a "nigger," a "real" citizen, no matter that such a culture threatens to render them a racist.

"There's being niggers."

I have no qualms about using the word "nigger." It is a word, like in the English lexicon, and no amount of political correctness, no amount of use "the n word"—as they the creation of a few letters we should then be able to manipulate its meaning without feeling its sting—will restore it from reality.

In the first 100 years of recorded blacks to white niggers past back. And so white may be concerned with the good of black as a whole, don't crowd their days worrying specifically about the well-being of blacks.

Illustration by Matt Mahurin



beliefs from Appalachia, seemed to send signals in their way. We need to start re-telling the most virtuous of fables. It is time to celebrate the New Black Americans—those who have sealed the Deal, whose benevolent liberal indulgence may more than offset the dissonance of the hard right. It is time to praise blacks whose every indiscretion and individuality is duly lauded in their liberal adoration.

Then, there is how the press let us. We need to return to our collective memory the event that marked the beginning of our new time line: an event from early in this millennium that would, for its moment in time, inspire us but that is now all but forgotten. It was lost in the ash of George W. Bush. The Bush. The Bush the rubble of 9/11. But if for me it will not let us go, won't let it get dumped into a poster's field of U.S. politics. It was not a person. Far too important. It was an event when two black men, America



Security Council. She confronted the foreign-policy train wreck that was the early days of G.W. Bush's 2000 campaign. helped build his inaugural inaugural wardrobe with advice from her. After the certification of Bush's election, Dr. Condi got herself finally appointed to his

A satellite photo of the U.S. surveillance plane after its crash landing in Afghanistan. Left: The Obama visit also drew the criticism of his own country's press. (U.S. State Dept. photo)

in September of '63 at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Niggers and white school children couldn't ride her home in with Clarence Thomas, their last but not least of her accomplishments. They stamped her. Not Officially Black. Niggers signed her a "No Niggers for the Twenty-first Century" left-leaning pundit assured her with the share "best interests" and "best interests" Julian Bond, reaching deep into the old-school bag of tricks, turned to the Supreme Court. Dr. Condi's authority "that because they are we can follow down it mean they're your kind of."

Condi

Then they went back to entertaining themselves with each other. Wogan brothers were

Agency

As NSA and confidants, Dr. Condi was with Bush and the end Mrs. Bush's body at Camp David in the last week in March of 2001.

Nike-Gilbert was the third best. They got the call A.U. & E.P. 3E signals were placed but finally gotten in a tangle with a People's Liberation Army

Short of a brother or sister actually being elected president, Rice and Powell's handling of the Hainan Incident was the high-water mark of black political power.

But for G.W. the second, much to his credit, his interest in Condi was less about her being a woman, let alone a black woman, and more about her being an accomplished individual.

And Dr. Condi was a complicated hell on Earth as a job on from the University of Denver. Her father passed in 1967. At thirty-five, barely a kid in Washington years, she was a staffer at the National

travel security advisor

Parts of the way around

Black America should have been sleeping. Condi was

But Condi was Republican. The never mind. Never mind the 4-point lifetime ban on down racism. Born in Birmingham in the peak of race hate, Condi was a schoolmar of Dennis McNair, one of the "four little girls" bombed to death

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▲ Powell (left) and Rumsfeld (right) gave little credence to Chinese charges that U.S. jets shot down a military transport plane at the Beijing airport, claiming instead that the aircraft got lost.

(and that's Chinese). It's interesting to get off the coast of China. The Chinese got shredded by the U.S. F-16's prep. The American plane, with a crew of twenty-four, was badly damaged. The Chinese got even dumber, the pilot most likely killed. The U.S. pilot did better. Managed to land the F-16 at American place. It was landed in the place on the island of Hainan. Chinese territory. And the Chinese claimed that the Americans had been spying over what were sovereign waters. And the Chinese claimed the plane had landed without permission.

And its lights were out.

From the get, this was making up to be a slightly drier mission—China being in possession of twenty-four American commercial planes and a lot of our top-tier surveillance planes (and the appropriate U.S. spokespeople went out of their way to state that was a surveillance plane, not a spy plane). The People's Republic wasn't exactly sure what we were, but it was hardly our clear bud, either. China from the White House following the domestic Chinese spy-scamal act of the late nineties, Bush had ditched the Chinese re-China. Had dropped the Chinese designation of China as a "strategic partner" for the tough-talk appellation of "strategic competitor." The actual meaning of "strategic competitor" doesn't diminish, but it struck the apparently tough-talk chom in the new generation's news-servers. Bush, though such tough talk, agreed the fact

that China was a major trading partner that was doing \$100 billion in annual business with the U.S., in million-man-hours.

So then here was the crux of Bush's first international incident. Having swept a mist in China, Bush now very much had to be diplomatically shrewd while looking domestically strong in dealing with our strategic competition.

This clearly required high-mindedness.

Bush turned the situation over to the highest wisdom in business: Dr. Cards. Made sense.

We ascended blacks have the right to claim the history we create rather than the history that is forced upon us.

Cards was a Russian expert. Wasn't this—the "Hanson Incident"—just some modern-day, old-school common-sense sense?

But that decision—right and plain as it seemed, set up the real conflict of the event. That conflict would not turn out to be the obvious one—U.S. versus China. It would be "us," the real blacks versus "them," those who not only hold hate regard for people of color but who wish to make ciphers of us all.

DR. CHENEY and Donald Rumsfeld were an odd school of thought. Politics left over of the Nixon Ford years. They are the

Powell because "the fact" both parties wanted to strengthen, swing him from their standard.

Powell went right. Predictable given immediately abandoned him. How could any self-respecting black man want to run from the Liberal Platonism? Never mind that he was a self-made modern American hero who openly exposed the value of affirmative action. Old-schoolers argued Powell with the usual left-wing racist jabber.

Powell was a real hero. A hero. In a particularly ugly race, Harry Belafonte's calmness, alluded to Powell as

Beats David, sporting metaphorical white ties emblematic of the '71 landslide. Though on the face, Bush had given such a vote in his otherwise progressive table. Wedging there in constant multiple fractures across the administration. From the jump, it was like the child against the car or War back against modernism. Those who thought the republic was best governed in secrecy and shadow against those who realized that the preamble to the Constitution is "We the People," not "Us the Government." The administration was a case study in "united independence," a group working toward separate objectives under their individuals working as a team.

Cheney and Rumsfeld formed the hard line of the Hanson incident—the only who saw little to no value in talk and diplomacy and wanted to get with the figurative nuclear pointy stick as possible. It was against such a mind-set as much as the Chinese government that Cards would have to negotiate. But the world not have so wild her content sale.

COLIN POWELL was the designated superior of American politics.

His bio was built upon. His bio a false underbelly service in "Wars, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. Part of the so-called raised to victory in Gulf War I. Author of the Powell Doctrine, which states that overbalancing force makes an enemy your best path.

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bought a house again.

At every opportunity, Powell was lit up with the invective reserved for black men who succeed by way of one figure and not hard work. One month after the *Left* struggled to outpace Powell with the *Wall Street Journal* column, Bush, who later would be accused by Kanye West of hating blacks, somehow managed to use as Powell's a savings black man.

As secretary of state in G.W.B.'s first term, Powell would spend hard conversations with China during the Hsin-

tao Dr. Card and Colin strategized, worried that all China was looking for was some contrition. A little humility, some acknowledgment that offering regret is different from taking blame, they figured they could show some remorse for the Chinese pilot without turning all of America into a weak state, something like that just seemed best in Stalin dress. Just give a "50/50" and get the crew home.

Dr. Card and Colin would not immediately get the chance to test their strategies.



Incident while there would be the constant with which all information would flow to the president.

Dr. Card and Colin

THE ADMINISTRATION would make Hsin-tao's situation that long the Clinton did not see how domestic law. We make demands, they make demands. There's a shadow deal that says to back our boys and says in exchange for some reactors and a few barrels of oil.

But this wasn't 1997. The Clinton wasn't a superpower dying in the vine. They were more concerned about getting their international program that they were about global peace. And respect had been a long time coming from the U.S. When Clinton's office in 1997, H.W. Bush being an apologist for the Dong region after the Taiwan issue began to crack down. And then there was an dropping a bomb right down the Clinton's warhead in a smokestack in Baltimore during the air war over Kosovo. And, you know, there was that magic partner, foreign policy competitor thing.

Forty-eight hours after the American plane went down, after just one day of silence from China, the first right-hand men just achieved patience. They were. When little confidence they had lost. Bush and Powell could make the situation global.

It's odd that Bush, whom Kanye accused of hating blacks, is the same president who empowered a black man and a black woman to handle the first crisis of his presidency.

ly disengaged like a brief bad mood. Diplomatic was boring and time consuming and much more with the requisite display of indifference. Though defense was the summer play for our war on all the *Barra* *Quintana* about was long-term. And, just twice weekly in Washington from looking like Jimmy Carter on, say, day 229 of 454 of the Iran vs. hostage crisis.

Obama got started. They got kicked to the curb. Clinton stomped around Wash-

ington doing a public job on expressing any regret. Instead being American must never have to say you're sorry.

Illinois representative Henry Hyde—who is chairman of the House International Relations Committee—referred to the U.S. crew as "hostages," which put an ugly public spin on the benign truth. Was it consciously meant to Powell's assessment that the crew was merely being detained?

Yeah, feeling the pressure to look up all his previous rhetoric, Bush, Dr. Card, "blinked," in the pop-culture sense of making a quick decision based on suspect intelligence.

In a Rose Garden appearance, a hand-drawn Bush caricatured the Chinese film ending "the right thing." Instead that now it is time for our screenmen and writers to return home.

These were political and moral questions. The hotline did was equally busy.

A day later, Clinton presided at Jiang Zemin finally responded. Clinton worried nothing less than that his incoming White House U.S. to "be as all responsible" for the collision. Worried an apology. Worried conversations. Worried the U.S. to quit its spy flights along the Chinese coast. Forever.

And it got real clear the circumstances might not save resolve themselves in a timely manner.

Just a few words. A few words photographed to create some tag-line, the national flag and the situation had delivered from "incident" to "stand-off." And the last word whippers as to whether Bush had to turn it back to be a

world leader began. Diplomacy was needed. Secrets, intellect and courage.

Bush made another decision. We think involved. As the *Washington Post* reported, the new *Forward* was made emphatic to call a ceasefire. No more confessions. No more independent. U.S. Cheney was sent out to stamp for the crisis. Bush was shifting. And while the *Barra* *Quintana* did not support the shift toward

# FRANK CAPRA



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# THE MAN & HIS MOVIES:

American Madness ~ It Happened One Night ~ You Can't Take It With You ~ Mr. Smith Goes to Washington ~ Mr. Deeds Goes to Town

## A Career Is Born



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.

The man who would become one of the greatest storytellers in American history moved to the U.S. from Sicily in 1903, and like so many immigrants, passed through Ellis Island on the way to Los Angeles. He earned a degree in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology, then worked a chain of odd jobs that left him broke while he tried to determine his true calling.

One day on a cable car in San Francisco, a stranger alerted Capra to a newspaper advertisement for a job in the movie business—a chance accountant that would immediately change his future, just like when the hero of **Mr. Smith Goes to Washington** is suddenly summoned to the Capitol. Journalist Peter Winick meets runaway heiress Ellie Andrews on the bus in *It Happened One Night*, or Longfellow Deeds unexpectedly inherits millions of dollars in *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town*. On a whim, Capra answered the ad and



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.

talked his way into working on a short, silent movie despite having no experience. When he looked through the camera for the first time, he had an epiphany: he had to be a filmmaker.

He spent a few years learning about editing and the craft of filmmaking, then landed a contract at Henry Cohen's Columbia Pictures, which was desperately in need of hits. From 1922-1929 Capra quickly made 16 films, and in 1932 he released the first movie in the Premiere Collection, the bank robbery film *American Madness*. Just three years after the most infamous stock-market crash, Capra captured the nation's financial fears in a drama starring Walter Huston as a classic Capra hero: a misanthropic down-to-earth man who seeks out the best in people.

## Mr. Capra Goes To Hollywood



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.

The industrious Capra demonstrated his mastery of storytelling with his first successful comedy, *It Happened One Night*, two years later, winning the Oscar for Best Picture. The film charmed audiences and Oscar® voters: the story of a hard-nosed journalist who falls in love with a rich girl on a cross-country journey swept the 1934 Academy Awards®, becoming the first film to ever take

home all five major prizes including Best Picture. The Sicilian immigrant who had talked his way into the film industry had won Columbia's first Oscar®.

Capra picked up another Best Director® Academy Award® for his 1936 film starring Gary Cooper, **Mr. Deeds Goes to Town**. At one of the nation's most bleak economic moments, Capra



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.

provided audiences with a tale about a man who inherits a \$20 million estate and then makes the decision to donate his fortune to those who need it most. The film sent an enduring message: in Capra's America, an individual with firm beliefs can make a difference regardless of where he comes from (and whether he plays a tube to help himself concentrate).

The director's appreciation for quirky protagonists took center stage in his double-Oscar-winning 1938 film *Best Director*, Best Picture **You Can't Take It With You**, which put an oddball case led by Lionel Barrymore against the interests of a heartless bank. While Nazis advanced across Europe and the U.S. marketplace became increasingly streamlined, Capra directed an homage to fighting conformity and following one's dreams. A similar theme runs through 1939's **Mr. Smith Goes to Washington**—one of the last films Capra made before turning his attention to World War II. In Smith, Jimmy Stewart



stars as a straight-talking Boy Ranger leader who single-handedly takes on his state's corrupt party machine when he learns money, not democracy, is the bottom line.

## Just Rewards



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.

Nomninated in 1939 for an astounding 11 Oscars®, Smith is the American Dream as viewed by an immigrant who lived it. It captures Capra's unshakable faith in the idealistic America he founded on, and his faith that it only takes one righteous man—a simple, small-town man who's upstaged to speak his mind—to save the nation.

Many would argue that Capra himself was the best example of that man. The Premiere Collection allows for a never-seen-before look at his life and works through family photos, interviews, and stories that explore what led him to make some of the most poignant, powerful, and entertaining films to ever flicker across the big screen.



What should viewers know about your father that would help them understand the five films in this set?

**Capra Joe:** He really loved people and believed in the inherent goodness of people. His heroes are tested over and over again by many things and they rise above it. Jimmy Stewart once said, "Capra really makes you work for those happy endings."

The press plays a role in all of these films—why do you think that is?

**Capra Joe:** I think my father had a kind of premonition about the media. And at that time Hearst had his newspapers and was able to control public opinion in many ways. In Smith, the media is controlled, it's in Deeds' too. I think when people see Mr. Smith today, hopefully they start to think about the possibility of that being Dave today.

What was your father's relationship with his actors?

**Capra Joe:** He loved actors. He really really did. The script was tremendously important, the story itself was paramount, but his actors, because he loved his actors so much, and so him they translated his stories to the audience. So he was always very careful about casting, and he had many choices for many parts. His heroes were somewhat flawed, usually had a sense of humor, and also fit the character. Jimmy Stewart was the Ivy League type. Gary Cooper was sort of a Westerner, kind of a loner.

Why do think like Mr. Smith Goes to Washington saved the best of times?

**Capra Joe:** The idea of corruption in Congress strikes a pretty strong chord. It doesn't matter what year you're in. When Mr. Smith came out, senators and congressmen write letters to the editors of the papers saying nobody should see this picture. It's a vile attack on Congress. When it played overseas, it was a celebration of freedom and that goodness would win out in the end. Good theaters were playing it 24 hours a day just prior to France's fall to Germany.



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.



Capra's first major film, *It Happened One Night*, won him the Oscar.

American Madness ~ It Happened One Night ~ You Can't Take It With You ~ Mr. Smith Goes to Washington ~ Mr. Deeds Goes to Town

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diplomacy, truthfully he was flustered to  
have him.

Dr. Gandhi and Colin would be given  
five years.

The modernists had won round one of  
the administrative wars. And for the first  
time in the history of the U.S.—a history  
of slavery, of brutalized Reconstruction,  
over Jim Crow and covert soft bigotry—a  
black woman and a black man were in  
the position of speaking for America to  
the world.

We, collectively—not just black Ameri-  
ca but all of America that truly bought  
into the fantasies of liberty and justice  
for all—we had risen.

The anniversary dinner was, inevitably,  
five or six days running in the written  
press and the international media,  
and doing the rounds in the 24/7 cable  
news news grinder. It was Gandhi and  
Colin. They pulled the administration out of  
a Ramo-Gandhi dog-hole. Projected calm  
and reasonableness was just prior there  
was only go. Sticking with their core plan to  
double-down with purpose and action here,  
they expressed "regret" over the loss of  
the Chinese pilot. Powell followed up his  
public statements with an international  
"regretful email" sent to the Chinese. A  
major loss of face to them.

Secondarily, Gandhi counseled the  
president to display some humanity.  
Bush made a public statement that  
he was sending his prayers to the dead  
Chinese pilot and his family.

Little gestures.

Significant.

By Thursday April 18th the Chinese foreign  
ministry, if not quite ready to sing him-

hymns, acknowledged the U.S. crew members  
were "helping the right direction."

At the same time, Powell's own words  
about, stronger statements of intent to the  
Chinese pilot's death, and country's torturous  
history of bigotry, the human didn't open  
and the stock market didn't drop and the  
country was on't having our series and  
daughters race plan are girls. That twenty-  
four sermons and women were that  
much closer to ending home.

So close the sermons could pick up  
the stock of sermons. Around  
they were, real time in the game, looking  
to gain some victory by playing on to  
the successful history of others.

Juste Jackson came looking.  
Juste Jackson, who in presidential the  
Rambo FUSIL Coulton. He put a call  
to Powell offering help. Offering to add  
an "economic relief to component" to  
Powell's efforts.

It was really just Juste looking online  
up his image. It'd been just since  
he'd been outed as having fathered a kid  
with the former head of the Rambo Co-  
alition's Washington, D.C., office, that  
given the girl tens of thousands of dollars  
from the Rambo FUSIL coffers as  
"charity for my" money.

Not sure if that's the economic relief  
poor campaign Juste had wanted to  
add to the standoff.

Powell's cowardly gene Juste the go-by.  
Juste and his old-school ways, even if  
they hadn't been offered belatedly and  
with self-service, were of no use to the  
New Black American.

Victory was at hand. The U.S. crew-  
men were just days and an official let



A photograph of a man in a white shirt and tie standing in a room, possibly a museum or gallery.

Must have toys  
for grown-up boys



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## THE ESSAY

tion of regret to the Chinese government away from returning home. And you know the homecoming would have been filled with hugs and pageantry. The *Beijing Herald* would have reported before the superior intellect of the second-edition black. Likewise, the Old School Negroes and their liberal masses would be forced to acknowledge the evolutionary brother and sister. When the images of the homecoming were played and played and played from the morning empty that shows through the night to us in Larry King and his dreamlike primitive interview (with all-out) of the crew, all of America would see freedom was won by a black man, a black woman.

They would have seen all that.

Except.

Niggers fucked it up.

THE LAST THING recorded by the dim-mounted camera in the police cruiser was officer Stephen Roach say-

ing: Ordered to stop, he complied. Made a sudden move for his weapon. Roach fired. Thomas took a single slug to the chest. Dead.

"Fifteen since '95" was the cry. Timothy Thomas being the fifth with Cincinnati black men to die during an arrest or shortly after being apprehended by the cops. "Fifteen since '95" was heard from local blacklists but for justice, for whose vengeance by way of legal recourse would not do. The New Black Panthers. Some until called the type of forces. Only things special about the men were the white-hair. Jew-hater races they could call upon against it's notes. Avoided most scary-concave muzzing they caused the day after Thomas got shot. Crissled it along with Thomas's memo. And a couple hundred more whipped-up loads of color. They showed up to "talk" with my officials.

There was some white-hair. Some Jew-hater. Precious little talking.

The rioting in Cincinnati, coming as it did just as Rice and Powell were on the verge of settling the Hainan Incident, obscured the most important moment in the history of blacks in American politics.

ring across an intersection off Republic Street in Cincinnati. Then he enters as ailes.

Then you can hear a shot being fired. Beyond that, all you can do is speculate. And/or take Roach's statements as is what led to Timothy Thomas's death.

What we know

What we know

Black kid. Nineteen years old. Trained with the law. Parents outstanding women. All rights reserved.

In the early morning hours of April 3, 2001, Thomas was confronted by some cops looking to pop him for those, we mean. Thomas ran. Some in he'd run twice before when cops were trying to pop him. Stopped got called in. Roach was among them. Thomas wasn't armed. Roach had no way of knowing. All the cops knew was that he was doing a foot per minute when they were one of the most dangerous sections of Cincinnati. Over-the-hill.

Thomas headed down that dark al-

After three hours of chaos and rioting, the last spilled onto the street. Another thousand or so protesters got whipped up and swept along as the Blacklists made their way to the Cincinnati 100. More screaming! More hating! Through the evening and into the night.

"Fifteen since '95"

Rocked down. Further down. Broken glass was laid out on the

"Fifteen since '95"

By 10:00 a.m. on Monday April 9 while Powell and Rice were working to free detained Americans, the Blacklists had achieved what they were pushing for: the tropical post-card-eyes expression of urban rage when it unleashes down itself a ragged burning of business. Looting of businesses. Indiscriminate violence against whites and nonblacks, kicked from cars. Bombs set to explode.

Simply rioting.

If a gang of whites had done the same, the weapons from the Blacklists



Into the Night



WITTNAUER  
SWISS

Zales

would've been of a coming racist peak. They, the whites, would've been called a type's snail.

But the matters were of color.

What was happening to be heard by the newspaper was some sort of approval from the self-appointed BNICs that herring and bearing and snailing were the ways to go.

Approval was given.  
Rovell M. Haines (real name: Priscilla Gray), who was the president and CEO of the NAACP, stated that Carter was the "belly of the whale."

Al Sharpton—the who in the high self-appointed BNIC of a constituency that no longer exists—denounced the federal court of Carter's policies. Of all America's copes!

The Top House of the Liberal Foundation, The New York Times, opened that economic devastation was at the heart of the rise (though it failed to explain why poor whites rarely did the same).

## Powell and Rice represent the best of us, and yet the leaders of the dying Movement insist on branding the two of them sellouts. Not Officially Black, Tom.

The Blackbirds of Carter got what they wanted: some did school in Carter's system, doing some fire for long with politicians and the war cry.

"Fishes a since '96."

On the surface the number of children at the hands of the police, African black men had died since '96. But the state didn't reflect that. Have you had a chance to meet some of the African police kids at cop school in Cincinnati?

Say hey to Harvey Price, who hooked up his girlfriend's daughter with an African. He didn't have to get her when he refused to surrender peacefully. We're at tactical cops with a knife.

Give a go to Mr. Jeffrey Travis. Confessed for smoking a few buds in Indiana, Travis responded by grabbing a cop's gun, shooting the officer in the head. Another officer, optics up, looking to avoid worse, shot and killed Travis.

Cat E got a whup-up for Daniel Williams? In February of '96, Danny bagged down officer Kathleen Conway's cop car. Then he pushed her in the face. Then she hit. Portersville, 357 Magnolia. After

all that, Conway managed to fire back—I would only say in self-defense—killing Williams.

The final count of these "fishes since '96"? Twelve had threatened arresting officers' lives with some type of weapon before they were killed. Seven of those twelve threatened cops with guns. Four cops were killed or wounded in making those arrests (a period where the Civil cops had been killed in three years).

But let's not serve the cause. And "a couple since '96" doesn't make for much of a story.

Three days of chaos. Nearly \$4 million in damage to the city, most of it in predominantly black areas that could ill afford economic downturn. Record levels of arson, particularly among blacks, under police, have strongly new rules of engagement, could no longer effectively protect the very people who had demonstrated there.

It was a mess.

The Blackbirds, they would not a victory.

THE NIGHT OF 4/13/06 was the worst of the rioting in Over-the-Rhine. Louisville included a cop shot, a state of emergency declared.

The next day, 4/13/06, while Gault was still riding down, the detained U.S. crew got loaded onto a commandeered Continental Airlines jet. Wave down from Havana to Guam. Gault to Hawaii. The garrison, the exiles, of two blacks had set them free. But for Powell and Rice there was no conviction from the prison—or lesser—blackness coming home from left America. Energy downed by the story of apprehension it had been forced to tie up over Christmas, the best the black establishment and the national media could or would see. Dr. Gault and Cuba was a collective drug. A distinctive act: the effect of which was to minimize the significance of their accomplishment.

And maybe in early 2001 it didn't matter so much. After meeting critics there

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# THE RestlessMAN

Real Adventures for REGULAR GUYS | BY BUCKY McMAHON



**THIS MONTH** Snowshoeing.  
**WHERE** A couple hours from Salt Lake City.  
**DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY** Much easier than its water-bound cousin, kiteboarding.  
**COST OF THREE-DAY WEEKEND** \$540.  
**DEGREE OF FUN** A horizontal float.

It'll be just like not sleeping at home.

Tobias screws the skystraps onto a black waxed-pop-downer. Before I enter, he gives me the seat belt: both levers hit newspaper-widely caulked rails, his usual eyes, like his face and his appearance, into a Yale-themed sweater—and says, “I don’t know about you, my friend, but I’m quite concerned about the corner of the present administration.” By my second day he has run the gamut of conspiracy theories, including me Grinchhopper, and is giving me Internet research assignments.

At 1 p.m. my popperman, preparing to escape further duties, the wife saint saves up my socioeconomic signifiers and says, “You must be here far too late, huh?”

Inhaled I am. Of course I am. These days strangers don’t much wander into my life: my view unless they have a hooksway to attach themselves to my giant line and go handlining across the backcountry on their snowboards. It’s the sport of fascists, and everyone is secretly and coldly—though not fast. For years, it’s the closest village to Skyline Ridge, a wind-constant and spectacular patch of the Wasatch Plateau, easy just to be the best anywhere anywhere.

**SKYLINE RIDGE** in mid-winter is a vast backcountry playground of blue deciduous and gleaming white domes the size of sports arenas. The sheer scale of the place would be hard to grasp except for a scattering of distant snow-covered, other-paneled-shaped folds flaring along a sea of whipped cream like brightly colored grass. Whenever one of them launches high on Mount Hill, you can see his shadow suddenly detach and glow clear across the snowpack for what seems like a very long distance.

Every time I see that I want to kick myself for sucking—why can’t I do that?—and I’m more determined than ever to go over the first steepthing in the learning curve. No question about it, a snowkite is the single coolest piece of sporting gear I’ve ever hooked up with, like a superlightweight prosthetic wingsuit, wing from my ass. But for all that wealth of technology and tension, my patient instructor, Brian Schenck, and I have been

## FWOOMP. LOOP. ZOOM. (SPLAT.)

IT SOUNDS MORE LIKE ONE OF WILE E. COYOTE’S BRIGHT IDEAS THAN A WINTER PASTIME. STRAP ON A BOARD AND A GIANT KITE AND GO CAREENING ACROSS THE SNOW.

I could be the opening scene of *An American Werewolf in Utah*. After a white-knuckled drive across the high desert in the snow, I see a glowing neon sign and pull into a motel next to a big yellow school bus that, though driverless, seems to be yelling. It’s not. It’s full of whiggish white-blue dogs standing on the seats, barking their heads off. “Oh, the dogs, yeah,” says the innkeeper after I scurry inside. “They’re just throwing the bus for a while until the owners move their new ranch.” Not a problem. I’ve got a nice snowboarder of my own, so



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# THE RestlessMAN

• Snowbirds just starting to land—except with a sophisticated Starterpilot as a guide.

reached most of the day in a few hundred square feet of powder, now packed by impact coaters from my many crashes.

It's been five some thing or two—pilot error—and though I've been doing it for three days now, pilot error, I mean, not wrecking repeatedly, albeit carelessly and often hilariously, I think I'm finally on the verge of a break through. For instance, I'm becoming competent at the reclining maneuver.

This is the drill: I'm once again sprawled on my back, my limbs crumpled in a heap where it crashed. With my left hand grasping the control bar, an ingenious device that functions both as handle and steering mechanism, I reach forward with my right and pull the front lines, lifting the kite's leading edge to the wind. Brian calls it "kiting"—as in, kiting for a low-flying cat. *Jump, jump, jump!* Come on, how far you floppy as you get out of the water.

Sometimes, the lines will catch wind and flare out dramatically to an extraordinary size. It will fly wounded, shoot four feet off the water, yanking treacherously, creating a violent distraction from the control bar. I'll ease out the bar cautiously, making the kite rise just high enough to steer it into a level loop to remove the twist in it as caused by the crash. This is a job that—up to now—has been a breeching Moby-Dick, yanking me out of my center and into my bliss.

And so it comes again. I jump. Loop. Zoom. I'm above it now. Visioning across the back. I hear Brian shouting, "Flew it? Punched it? What? Watch me! Flyer!"

Brian has up to my new subject matter, becoming more competent. "More rehearsal?" he says.

See what I'm saying?

**"SNOWBIRDS"** about 80 personal kites flying on only 20 percent kiting operation. Brian lectured on my first day. Languid and laid-back, the Drifter himself was our bad cop to my naïveté, more like an unimpeachable amiable carrying-on people fly machine in a light-weighting. It all by the low noon occupied half the room while Brian explained the rigging.



"Punch-pull. And be aggressive," he said, control bar at chest height, demonstrating the barehanded technique of snapping a turn. This made partial sense to me. It'd come to me, writing by way of wondering, and all the parts were roughly understood. The line was the nose, the control bar a measure, versus of the boom. Motion only, the advantage was on the side of the kite, which, being up where the wind is, is a lot more powerful than usual. I was punched.

That afternoon, Brian, Ian with, Heather, and I piled into their van and headed up serpentine Skyline Drive, eventually

stopping out at mile marker fourteen, back in the spring of 2002, Brian and Heather had discovered this spot while driving back from a climbing trip in Nash. In fact, rock climbing was how it all started for Brian, who got into paragliding as an advanced free-boarding way to get down from the crags. Paragliding to living was a natural transition.

We scurried off from the road, heading gear into a snowpack, where Brian plunged a fifteen-foot flagpole through the crust. A tangential-in-hand wind flag unfurled, clearing this spot as his temporary headquarters. Clear was in season, and leave

## How to Experience This Adventure

Roll into Salt Lake City and take I-15 south, then Route 63 east and 89 south to enjoy the view, forgotten by time since the fifties.

**CONTACT** instructor Brian Schock at Westap (801) 361-8300, which has a designated training area on Skutumpah Ridge (near mile marker fourteen). A three-day instruction program (kite included) will run you \$375 solo or \$425 total for two people.

**SLEEP** at the bare bones \$55 per night Skyline Motel (435) 427-3823—for now in the works: the lodge-like Kite Ranch.

**EAT** across the valley at the classic high-chestnut cheer Home Plate Cafe, which around 6:00 a.m. becomes the town's de facto meeting hall. You'll find coal miners, cattle ranchers, snowbirds, and even the mayor.

**GO** when the snowpack is deep enough for impact—usually December through March.



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one was learning to fly a kite.

We begin by launching a little two-foot trainer kite, the limp, which rose briefly straight up to the red-of-air tether. It bangs there obediently as we wait. This punch left, pull right on the bar sent it whirling into a clockwise loop. I flow the slider straight into the nose—down—hardly that first time. Soon I was looping the limp, doing figure eights that had me shadowboxing with the control bar. When I tried the more techniques with a kite twice as big, the turns were both slower and more dizzy, and I could feel the weight of the wind's power zone, trying to dig in my hands but staggering after the kite—what I was time to step on a board.

Though equally awkward as skis or a snowboard, I'd chosen the board for its slope (and a decision I regretted at once it was rag-dolled, Patek's web-belly-thrashed up, and flung down, a hapless microcosm at the hands of a cruel pop-pop-assault kite. A couple of exasperating hours later I asked Brian what he thought about my giving that a try.

"Oh, yeah, man," he said. "I think you should."

**DAY TWO** WAS A rainy, breezy Sunday made to order for snowkiting. Wind direction called for different sets, a little lower down, as the ridge. A lot of Brian's Salt Lake City kiting buds started up, along with a cadre of snowboarders—riders from northern Cali—the two big-wave surfer Jeff Kunkin and two of his amigos, the ones that had recently attempted the first kitesurfing trip around the Hawaiian Islands and back. It was a happening scene.

Instantly I was making things out on the pack, feeling the rush as I leaned back into the harness and let the bar. Which led to every different sort of high-speed wipeout, but I was getting my time, gaining muscle memory, the kind of unconscious resist-

ance you need to anticipate when the kitesurfer relationship is about to run amok.

And so, late in the afternoon of day done, back up at the marker for noon, under the layer of Boreas mist, I finally began to snowkite. I took that big boy in the power zone and set my edges for a screaming reach. That always has kept my eyes on the kite. It wets off to a gust and I punch-pull attack. I even take a hand off the control bar to shake a shake—the first prime-time step toward freestyle snowkiting. I swoosh to a stop with the kite high in the neutral zone, crash second, and up back to where I started.

"All right?" Brian cheers me on. "You're doing it. Just don't go into the bowl."

Yeah, sure, the bowl. It lurks off to the right of Boreas's hill, an upturned ant-hill where an unfortunate dude named Bill once got himself lost during a white-out and had to be rescued. Every downward run brings me closer to it until the whole world seems to be tilting backward. About an hour after Brian's warning, I finally have to admit to myself that I am going into the bowl. I feel my fall from the earth's end, looking up at my low, wide door for an instant what the proper steering correction would be, the patch-pull counter that would safely land me pointed out of the bowl. Then time speeds up. I suddenly am on my back, plowing at high speed headfirst down into the bowl, the kite still fully powered. I reach for the release and snap pull it. Kitesurfing goes well.

"Well, sure at least you know it works," Brian says. He's skidded down to meet me at the bottom and we're thinking how we're going to get out. He gets on my harness, launches the kite in the light, temperamental wind down to the bowl and with an evocative display of technique, looping and looping things, turns me back up to the rim.

It takes a while, though, and by the time we get back, it's time to pack it in. On our way down to Paroway, Brian sees

**NO QUESTION ABOUT IT: A snowkite is the single-coolest piece of sport-ing gear I've ever hooked up with (like a super-lightweight prosthetic wing sprouting from my navel).**

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## THE RestlessMAN



Jeff Kober & Co. high on the main ridge, getting to a line last winter when the sun disappears behind the Wasatch peaks. We park and watch. It's the golden hour, when the snow takes on a fiery tint and everything looks fantastic. The boys know it, too. When they see our camera, they converge on us like angels swooning down for stilt bread. Most snowboarders, after

**15 MINUTES TO A STOP WITH THE KITE HIGH in the neutral zone, crank around, and zip back to where I started. "You're doing it!" Brian cheers. "Just don't go into the bowl."**

an hour, they come skittering into across the crustal snow, kamikaze-like sometimes being into the wind. Then with a juss-

ty tip of the steering bar, they boost themselves twenty feet above the snow, glider on their lines. You want mid grab? The kisser goes! "You look like... that's great wires, make word, soaring sounds like that's possible when they pass.

These guys, these pros, they're operating in a world where anything is possible. In this case,

and good to know somebody's doing it, using these wonderful toys to something as the heart of their performance. It

**WARNING: NEVER TIE YOURSELF TO A TREE**

And five other back-biting precautions we have from the *Down-the-slope manual*:

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# YOU ARE WHO YOU MEET

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# A Christmas Story

Ralphie just wanted that BB gun. And Esquire gadget guru Barry Sonnenfeld just wants a new camera. And maybe a couple bottles of good tequila and a new projector. Oh, and there's that yacht...

Well, it's Christmas time, which for me means eight or nine noddings on top of a lot of Christmas presents. This year I'm trying to make things easier for the wife, so I'm bundling things into categories. (One piece of advice: Sweetie, just because you see several watches, tequilas, or cameras doesn't mean I don't want them all.) I've tried to give her a range of price options as well, from the relatively cheaply hang-on-layers at a hundred dollars all the way to the 118-foot Burger yacht at twelve or thirteen mil. I think Sweetie was sending me a message last year when she refused to buy me the \$25 million Citicorp X jet, so I'm slumming it this time around.

POD VALUERS BY MICHAEL EDWARDS

Director Barry Sonnenfeld is on the other side of the camera, in our version of Joan Shepherd's holiday classic, at his house in Woodbury, New York.



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When I'm directing a movie, I'm good for five cigars a day and Swartz's has just had me two more in the heavens for cigar smoking, my office and the screening room. The best legal in the U.S. cigar has ended up in the **Panama Opus X Perfection X** (5405) for less than thirty-two cents (Tinsley.com), which is strong and peppery and very well built. I would take this as **David's Diamond Cigar** (pink lighter) (2543) (David's.com). It has no flavor and doesn't impart any fuel taste.

There's nothing like a cowboy hat to announce to the world that you embrace after-lunch beverages. These about my mother used to affectionately refer to as a pin head. I have my hats made at the **Security Hatter** (5405) to 5405, 5711, 720 (5405) for less. Cabotville. They have a medieval device that makes a temple of your head, which is then recorded. I take photos of the hats worn by various country western singers who come to town to perform—like Jason Blount or Braden Ray of A Leap at the Village—and Nate at Security Hatter makes the so-called replica.



Any of these digital cameras is perfect as gifts, and each has different features which would make them all. The **Canon CX3000** (5405) camera card is the best point-and-shoot camera I've tested with a totally versatile lens that gives it a perfectly flat picture. Not only is it 3.1 megapixels, great for making big enlargements—but it has an incredible feature more. If you're looking for the perfect all-around point-and-shoot, this is it. The **2 Canon PowerShot G7** (5405) camera card is also a two megapixel but it's bigger than the Canon and accepts both wide-angle and telephoto lenses. What really makes this Canon special, though, is the seven-frame optical zoom (also placing it somewhere between a small point-and-shoot and the bigger SLRs). **3 Olympus Stylus 720 SW** (5405) (olympususa.com) is a new and improved version of its wide-angle camera with a bigger chip (better megapixels) and viewing window. This camera is not only great for underwater photography but would be the thing to bring along, what with its built-in electronic water proof.



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PURE  
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The portable and wireless cellular features of the **Lenovo ThinkPad X60s** computer (15.475 lenovo.com) left me at the perfect laptop for use on the sets of my shows. As in ordinary times, there is nothing keyboard than IBM's. The X60s connects wirelessly to the Verizon EV-DO cellular system, which is close to broadband in speed up here at the set and a "Mail get started to Gmail" is all day long. (The "Should I be worried that the plumber has been at the house these days this month?" For around the house, I like the **Mailbox Pro** (12.499 apple.com) above with an lot of Core Duo chip for editing photos and videos. This past summer I drove my Rhinoceros back and an angry friend from Long Island got me a new car, a **Volvo**. I like the **Volvo** for its all high gear video, which looks an others almost two weeks to lead into two excellent Monitor one, tenabyte drive. With an excellent back and forth Call Express HD, I'm going to the nerve to start editing it. I think the result will be deliciously great. At least that's my hope.

I have owned a couple of Porsche Cayennes (a 2004 Cayenne S and a 2005 Cayenne S) and I love the Cayenne kind of car for me. It's all about torque. My week of testing the **Porsche Cayenne S** (50,000 porsche.com) changed my mind. The Cayenne is a great sports car. It drives like a sports car—due to its mid-engine design, which also means you get a fast 200 and a front trunk. I spent a weekend at Newport Beach, Calif., and all the rich people at my hotel were quite impressed when the value brought in a new



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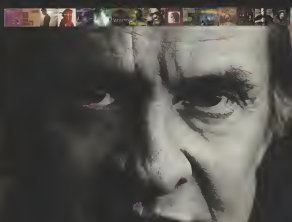


[illegible]

Rest your finger on the small but very special **semiKave** **Personal Stress Release** (\$100, [www.semikave.com](http://www.semikave.com)) and make the red light turn to blue. Then, guess, as you feel it all of your anger, thoughts, confusion, pleasure, joy about how colorful your life has been since you discovered this amazing stress-releasing tool. You'll know it again. It is a small red light, a device, neither good nor bad.



Right now I'm in from the online series *Thruk* (Quibi). The set is so amazingly hot I'm happy that both the temperature and the show will go up. I have seen my rights in public and I want to get it to work on my new television station. Next, from the last derby every year is coming. My favor is to be a device, though in the *Green Lane Project* (Quibi). I've been part of the film industry since I was 10 years old. I've been doing some things for the film industry since I was 10 years old. I've been doing some things for the film industry since I was 10 years old. I've been doing some things for the film industry since I was 10 years old.

[illegible]

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 The Canon HV20 camcorder (01.1.2003 canonusa.com) is a very sleek little chipbug that produces images with an absolute menu to follow. It takes and practices to your point. The

Some have just introduced the VPL-VW1000 ([www.vpl.com](http://www.vpl.com)) a new 1280x full high definition three chip projector that can deliver up to 13,000 lumens to use contrast ratio (1000:1) which is significantly different to be used with a new 3D image projection screen called the RealScreen 331. Which is made of stretchable and helps create more contrast, deeper blacks and can be used for three different sizes that are 100, 150 and 200 inches.



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[illegible]



Sexiest Woman Alive 2004  
Angelina Jolie  
"Pleasant as a martyr"



Sexiest Woman Alive 2003  
Jerrica Biel  
"Beneat solum cum  
deformibus mulieribus ex vita"

## THE SEXIEST WOMAN ALIVE Hall of Heroes

At the turn of another year, we take a moment to look back. Following the world's greatest last month of Sexiest Johnson in England's Sexiest Woman Alive 2004, we have decided to offer this collector's wall piece of three years' worth of distinguished Sexiest Woman Alive portraits, a celebration of both the challenge and the majesty of this extraordinary triumph.

Please  
See  
here



Sexiest Woman Alive 2006  
Scarlett Johansson  
"Dites tout!"

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# The Genius Test 2006

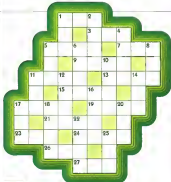
BY MIKE SHENK,  
AMY GOLDSTEIN,  
AND ROBERT LEIGHTON

Are you smart enough for this issue?

WHAT WOULD OUR ANNUAL Best & Brightest issue be without a mind-stretching test of your own intelligence? In an issue full of quizzes, here's one you can take. Scramble through the winding paths of your own but hidden brain to solve four interrelated puzzles, guess the next three pages. Finally, we'll give you the first three puzzles, each of which will give you multiple letter answers. You'll need those words, in turn, for the final puzzle. Complete it and you'll find what we've all been looking for.

## CROSSWORD

**CROSSWORD** Fill in the grid with letters to form words. Some letters are already filled in. The words are listed in the clues. (One of the answers is highlighted.) As an extra challenge, each answer also contains a word or phrase that is a clue to the answer. (We've highlighted some phrases in the grid.) When you've finished the puzzle, there will be eight letters in the spaces remaining, each shaded blue. Exactly five of these eight letters will be the answer. Write the repeated letter (shaded blue), then read the shaded letters (shaded blue) diagonally from the top left to get the two-letter answer. In the right box.



## DOWN

- 1 Many visitors to Disney World in the state of the sunny state
- 2 Her husband played all the roles of the house he got for her for her birthday
- 3 The new CD Miss Martina Sings Show Tunes might just be another listen
- 4 The travel agent sent her clients a letter from Greece with vouchers for hotel discounts all over Europe
- 5 Settling in the back part of a church is like getting the church at Yankee Stadium
- 6 Butano and his sister escape from the island to look for a new life in the 1850s
- 7 The rymowol computer had the famous document locked up as a private war
- 8 Exploding incidents for a fuller sense of a harsh solution to the problem of slavery
- 9 The reaction to the designer's new designs is whether the fashion critics like having one part below the knee
- 10 It's hard for some people to understand themselves of gender identity issues
- 11 Because they grow up in a locked state, the author finally got to make a call from a ship
- 12 Cincinatti makes some of the best soda pop
- 13 Every week, another episode airs across the highway and takes another shot
- 14 Bay, we just put the new water on the air
- 15 When the USA engineers start talking, it's just payoffs lunch time, yadda yadda
- 16 The design of the Doggett Museum may not be unusual today, but the first people to see the museum's thought, that's never the!



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IT'S MORE FUN  
TO BE THE PAINTER  
THAN THE PAINT  
IF GEORGE  
CLOONEY CAN'T  
SAVE THE WORLD, AT *least*  
HE MAY BE ABLE TO SAVE  
THE MOVIES  
PHOTOGRAPHS *by* Art Streiber **BY CHRIS JONES**



Clooney gets shiny (10/21)  
by Giorgio Armani

## Yesterday, George

Cloney was at work filming *Agony's Thirteen*, which is his penance for wasting studio money on smaller, smarter films that not as many people will pay to see. The day before, he was at a crowded, elaborate photo shoot where he obeyed orders to stand on a soapbox and study a pencil. This morning,

he was on the phone with Renee Zellweger, who was calling to announce that she would like a part in his next big project *Love's Labor's Lost*, for which he will receive writing, directing, and starring credits. On Thursday, he will leave New York, talking to the Security Council at the United Nations, trying to convince them to save the last people of Daxlar.

This afternoon, though, is his. Golf is on the TV in his Studio City living room. Through one of its open windows, sunlight beams off the surface of his snow-lined pool. It is peaceful here, away from all the show should be paraded in the streets.

Like puns but have feet up on his coffee table, where they are protected from view by stacks of videotapes, or at least from by us, it's as though his toes are the anchors holding over the cable walls. He leans back into his overstuffed leather couch, down a pillow of his pants pocket to queen his posteriorly sitting back, and runs his hands through his hair, which he cuts and styles himself but which has not seen a comb today. That's the secret: he is off duty. Without his parting, he is lovable.

And yet so much of his life is so fondly remembered that he filled his life with memory. The perfectionist, the perfect father, the perfect actor, these are all his life but also the products of it, they are instantly recognizable, even when they are obscure. Through a gut, a broken heart, and a beard, he was still George Cloney in *Yankee*. When he tried to write and direct *Boys n' Tunes*, the shadow of *Good Mates*, and *Good Luck on a gray suit* with his legs did not appear again background—he was George Cloney from the set of *Ocean's Thirteen*, men surrounded by the likes of Brad Pitt, Mike Damus, Don Cheadle, and Al Pacino. George Cloney in George Cloney is George Cloney.

"But I wasn't the George Cloney Brother," he says



He wants to tell a story. He is a good storyteller, conscious of detail and pace, each tale unfolding in three quick, clean acts. Every story he tells sounds like a punch.

When it was easy Cloney found himself told instead of young, when he could merely be the high notes and the could be better hold their own for long, the war forced to shirk the pop for jazz. Despite her long having faded her name a word, she was suddenly given a new voice, as though the silence had made her a better singer. Her nephew George, who was just about to make a name for himself, asked her how she had pulled it off. She said, "I don't have to show off anymore," she said. "I can just serve the music."

He didn't quite grasp it. He would try out for a part on *Hill Street Blues*, because every young actor wanted to end a part on *Hill Street Blues*, and he would cry and scream and play his heart like *Twelve*. Like *George Washington*, tearing every last shred of want from the bone. He did that ten times, for ten different parts, and he never came close to winning one of them.

But on the same day as a year later followed—*Twelve* lost, anyway—George Cloney found the gift of restraint, the power of black and white. At fifty-five, he has finally mastered the hard, sometimes painful art of this down note. "I come back for you," he hushed over the laughter in his throat in the underappreciated

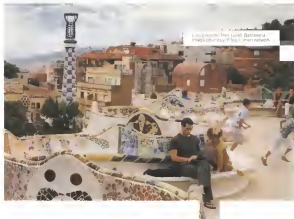
Silence, and in that moment, which was a new blogger for being so small, he demonstrated that he'd got the trick.

Along the way he also happened to build his himself as an image. The future turned into a present as he walked as he might have imagined. He is no longer an actor, or just an actor, at least. He has evolved into something more. Now he has reach. Now he is important.

Cloney makes movies and while he is liked his work trying, men who make movies will never see the world. But he may be our best hope to rescue Hollywood from its most common sin to a time before *Rocky* won the Oscar for Best Picture. Last Christmas, he gave family and friends a collection of his favorite







On the human network, people everywhere are experiencing a new kind of day. Encyclopedias update themselves every minute. Movies appear wherever there's a screen handy. And a phone can double as a train ticket or a lift ticket. Welcome to a place where wikis, collaborative applications and social networks are making us smarter, better and faster. Welcome to a network where anything is possible. Because when we're together, we're more powerful than we could ever be apart. The story continues at [cisco.com/humannetwork](http://cisco.com/humannetwork).

welcome to  
the human network.



We embarked on five quests. We found forty-two people (and their friends) who are making us see things we've never seen before—in the galaxy, in the atom; in our own heads and deep in our DNA; in our data networks; in the fog of our disasters; in the obvious places, and in the last places on earth you'd ever look. We began with a view of what's to come as we look out through our windshield...



#### TEST & DRIVENLIST

Tony Kim Harell  
fuel-systems engineer  
Ryan Choi,  
automotive design researcher  
Russell Young,  
engineer scientist  
Sébastien Thériault,  
artificial-intelligence engineer

B-B

EVENT

# THE FUTURE OF DRIVING

After years of stagnation, get ready for some real change. Say hello to cars—and roads—with minds of their own.

BY TOM CHIARELLA

## 1. LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW AT MY CAR

Consider the classic classification of evolution: You start on the left with the fish, then there's the fish with legs, then, I don't know, the squirrel or something, and on to the monkeys. Each one's a bit more upright than the last, all of it sweeping across the page until there's a guy walking with a big stick in his hand on the right. All in all, pretty damn big change.

Now then, about the evolution of the automobile. A century is, in many ways, the same as a car a hundred years ago. Your wheel, or rather the steering wheel, and a combustion engine, designed to fit in an enclosed, static, and idyllic road within the existing traffic laws. Sure, there have been small improvements, but it's honestly been about better seats, better sound, bigger engines.

Each of us has a personal history with the cars we've owned. Me, I started with a real fish in 1991: Chevrolet, followed by a '79 Volvo wagon, a '63 Buick Wildcat, a stripped-down Chevy S-10 pickup, an '86 Ford 900, two consecutive Honda Accords, a Mitsubishi Montero, an Isuzu Trooper, and a Buick. Now I drive an Audi A8. I'm looking at it right now. I love that car.

Yamaha all you want about race-and-sports steering, electronic spillover, about air bags and even the advent of air conditioning. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Truth is, my first car was very much the same as my last car: 30 years later.

When was the last time the function of a car was significantly redesigned? What about the driving experience itself? When was the last time a big car was a big car? And the most? How they ever changed? But the evolution of the car is against, say, the evolution of the airplane over the last century and you begin to get the idea.

When are these fish going to grow feet?

## 2. STANDING ON THE MEDIAN OF U.S. 70, MILE MARKER 861, INDIANA

The concrete is ugly, unvarnished, and bare. Traffic runs up from the deep distance, buses covered in two-ton, three-ton, with little marks of color against the tree line. Each car that passes creates a pulse of air in my ears, against my chest. No driver looks back, not that I can tell. They're indifferent to my presence. I was almost only by himself. There's nothing to reveal, not in the great concept that someone has driven a spiral notebook out the window of a car. Apparently for many, many years. The cars pass like being, under flexible sentences, under the eyes of random information. Since I can't



170



The Dry-Catalystation-HF™ series is tested to demonstrate consistently the following when put to use in carbide-forming, heat-treated gas turbine compressor rotors—would change a dramatically in each rotor's surface area.

"The basic components of the car of the future are within our reach now," Chien says. "It's a question of how we merge this stuff in imaginative ways. In a lot of ways it means making the car's intelligence larger, more responsive."

Although traffic engineers make well-informed traffic engineers, they're being told to let the traffic talk, a task that they seem to believe in. Their work starts along in a small, inch-thick book to the fairly tangible effects of a suitably improved traffic light. PATH act up outside Berkeley, a new learning ground for new and improved urban infrastructure, in this case the complex communications between the car and the road. Path is a look at sensor technology, which is a little like going to a water hole to watch the action. The focus is on the car, but the water is not in the car.

I'm on an old blousing-cap factory, where a young graduate student—a guy who looks like a *Hells on Wheels* cartoonist—a traffic engineer, short-sleeved button-down shirt, overly neat like a pack of pens, face trapped in a blank stare—takes me outside to what they call the intersection. It is set up behind a garage that contains the remnants of several automobiles, a half-driving buses and a half-dead auto museum cars, preserved San Diego in the nineties. They're behind a wall and backed for miles.

The *Incognito* on looks pretty much like any two hands crossing at the middle of a wrist, shaded, long-fingered and unadorned. "It's overexposed," the *Incognito* as he places it in the keyboard of his laptop. I can tell it isn't in an apology or an explanation. But as I look I can spot the sensors, small boxes at the bases of laptop palms and out on the arms. Little boxes, lenses, wiring. There are scars in the world where we touch each other, boxes, cameras that are not all.

The results for [www.springsocial.com](http://www.springsocial.com). Say you're a person hanging out the

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and storing the widely explosive hydrofides. This early "faring" Al/H<sub>2</sub> was a PhD in chemistry programing your car to fill up on distilled water instead. His notes in the lab said he was to be made in the car itself by mixing the water with boron powder ahead of time. The on-demand system would produce only enough hydrogen at a time to fuel the car. "What's exciting about this work," Al/H<sub>2</sub> said today, "is that this represents a closed-energy system. Since the boron, which is essential to creating the reaction, is converted to the collected, in the form



of local **saale** which can then be used as solar energy stations to harvest their own heat.

Room in house dedicated in Turkey: **Ram Hamed** thirty-four months out of the University of Minnesota where he already produced hydrogen by this method in the lab. "We just have to transfer it to the car," he says. The process is safe. And it may mean cars don't need fueling so often at all. Though the prospect of a landscape less dominated by gas stations has its appeal, you have to wonder where you'll find all the strapping oil of Sweden and a lot of other fuel. The oil's spoken. **Ram Hamed** can help on the subject of the new hydrogen.

BY JIM W. LARSEN

her direction and he's doing it wrong, you're to make a left turn," he says. "The road around here that *most* messages in the infrastructure are. There may be a few others but the *majority* of the messages are by *Microsoft* in the connection *turns* to *ask* *what* *you* *are* *doing* *and* *how* *long* *it* *will* *take* *to* *get* *there* *and* *then* *it* *will* *be* *in* *front* *of* *your* *face*. When cars get stuck, the signs give. That's why. The traffic rule, the speed for it, that depends on the conditions change. Now this makes sense to me. No more using a lightbulb in the middle of nowhere, when no traffic is coming. Stop signs could appear only as needed and could be shut within seconds to make traffic flow and more available. "Pretty cool," Tracy says.

The kid is so pleased. "I guess," he says, shrugging. He looks at the computer and sighs.

The time I am aware of the time. There has been an accident ahead of me, as they've stopped traffic for no reason. I set. The guy next to me says all these heads, all three bodies. Three crumbling over beneath us. We both forward. Minutes past, so I call my mother leave her a message. I call my brother, leave him a message. I call my son, but he does not pick up. Then, without warning, we move quickly, suddenly all three loose, and we're like children running to safety. Stopped again. Time I am aware of the time.

I have my car. I have my CDs stacked in a changer in the back. I like every song on them. Lastly, I have been using the heated seats to loosen up my back before we long car. I even have little wipers on my front headlights. I carry a duffel bag a back with my bottles of water, a blanket, sweaters, some maps, a pair of old snow boots, a bottle of M&M's, and three rolls of paper—a block of electronic, athletic, and duct. I'm happy to get that someday I'll be stranded somewhere in my car. I even like the idea, in some fashion, I like the idea that I'll be safe in my car no matter what. I like the idea that I can go where

need to. But when I'm out, I can't get anywhere and my car can't help me in any way whatsoever.

Muted toll. Long-term, liquidated productivity. Traffic congestion alone provides a \$70 billion drag on the economy, according to Neil Schaefer, CEO of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, who hit the phone, returning my call from earlier. "It's simple. People don't want accidents and they don't want delays," he says. "It's really not that selfish or self-absorbed to want to be on and use as little time as possible to get from place to place. People



PHOTOGRAPHED: a modest prefabricated, orange-pink-leaded-glass-roofed, 10,000-sq-ft factory in Jiangsu province. It gave him to and from his bookshelves of engineering books at the university, with where he is quietly

Most ethanol today is derived from corn kernels, which Zheng sees as a waste of good food. There's plenty of energy-rich sugar in the cellulose of corn's inedible stalks, leaves, and cobs among other types of biomass. But the cellulose is too tough to write the plant cell wall right. So, a decade or so ago, thought has been to break those cells down by

The ITSA is a consortium of criminals, freedomists, and local governments, and navigation, and even a technology company as it is spreading something called the Vehicle Infrastructure Integration, or V2X. The U.S. Department of Transportation study of the possibility of upgrading the nation's roadways so that more information can be passed from cars in the road back, then to traffic patterns, and ultimately to other cars.

"When you look at the rest of the world's systems," Schramm says, "it was a couple of people with vision. They wanted the roads to lead things, to make it so everyone could connect to everyone else. Fifty years later the backbone of that system is in place. Are we operating as efficiently as we could? Are we even near the P.D. don't leave anyone who thinks we are. The next fifty years are a matter of connections between the pieces of the system." —Continued on page 14

by conventional methods—to reform natural gas, glycol, coal, ethylene oxide, or, as in this hybrid-carbon case, before efficient and more polluting than petroleum. Zhang, however, has a simple solution, “so simple,” he says, “no one thinks about it.” The simple idea involves hydrogenating sugar

His recipe starts with the *ethanol* present in plant tissue to release sugar from cellulose and hemicellulose, or other "feedstocks." He adds yeast to the mixture to allow it to ferment. In this process, the yeast converts the sugars into ethanol in a combination with a novel enzyme that is used to divide the molecules into hydrogen and carbon. So far, his feedstock works without inputting too much energy or emitting any carbon dioxide. However, "reaction conditions are crucial," so you need to know what you're doing, including cell growth, kinetics, and solubility, and solubilization.

is expected to accelerate starting in the 2010s as networks of small, local bio-refineries to build large transportation plants. But it is just the beginning of a bigger wave. He believes that "the future energy centers are hydrogen."

Why hydrogen? It's clean energy, and it also can be clean—a hydrogen-powered fuel cell would be several times more efficient than a gasoline-fueled engine and

"We don't store and distribute gases like hydrogen any more," says Zhang. "We can do it through solid materials." He envisions a fuel cell with "sugar" cans. Fuelled up? "Sugar" stations "taking much of its current infrastructure from. Drivers would pump solid sugar into the tank, a converter would extract hydrogen on demand, and a fuel cell would convert the hydrogen to electricity."

Zhang's formula for "sweet empiricism" is helping taken quite seriously. Virginia Tech and Oak Ridge National Laboratory have applied for a grant to start. Helmut says tests at Oak Ridge are the top priority, and that's about as far as he'll go. "I don't want to get too much ahead of myself," he says. "I don't think this new technology could change the whole world's energy future completely."







# THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

For a hundred years, physicists have been scraping away at the strange and complicated phenomena obscuring the true face of our universe. Finally, a few brilliant young thinkers may be on the verge of getting the first real glimpse.

BY TYLER CABOT

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRIAN CHRISTIE

**E**IGHTEEN MONTHS TO GO. And now, on a night in New Arkland-Hamilton, one's sleep. Because in eighteen months someone will flip a switch and something called the Large Hadron Collider (Switzerland) And when that switch is flipped, billion upon billion of particles will fly around in a circular path at nearly the speed of light until they are smashed together head-on. And then say subatomic particles have been smashed together on earth. It's the greatest, most anticipated, most expensive experiment in the history of mankind! And if Arkland-Hamilton is right, it could help prove that the laws that govern the universe at every scale—from the smallest quarks to the largest black holes—are one and the same. God, of course, it could prove that Arkland-Hamilton is full of shit.

IT'S A FOOL'S BERNARD that quest for a theory of everything. And it's lost. Harned is only the most recent of thousands of theoretical physicists to embark on it. The idea seemed logical enough when Einstein first set out in the 1920s. If general relativity explains the universe from afar—why gravity pulls the earth around the sun—and quantum mechanics explains the world up close—how atoms, protons, and neutrons react to electromagnetic and the strong and weak forces—nearly done would be to get the two theories together. After all, whether cosmic in size or minuscule, the paradox and forces that govern the universe were all born at the same

primordial moment. Yet Einstein failed. And in the interim, armies of physicists, equipped with increasingly well-weaponized yet ultimately faulty or unprovable ideas, have followed him to the same well-trail dead end.

Since the mid-1970s, the leading contender for a grand unifying theory has been string theory. The notion is intuitively simple. At the core of every particle in the universe is a tiny thread of energy. Each of these filaments vibrates like a violin string, and its rate of vibration determines its vital characteristics, or mass. There are countless strings and electron strings, photon strings and graviton strings. When played together, they can pose the symphony of the universe. Or at least, that's the theory.

There's a problem, though. The strings have too much range. So much, in fact, that for string theory to agree with the established laws of physics and mathematics, there must be not three but at least 10 dimensions (and who knows) that are curled up and hidden away. And because each of these multidimensional landscapes carries a different string tuning, there are potentially billions and billions of different versions of string theory relating to billions and billions of different universes.

There's one other problem of using string theory. There's how some worlds. We hypothesize, then we test. And if a hypothesis passes, it becomes law. But this theory, that supposedly undergirds our universe, can't be tested—once string is to an atom as a single atom is to the entire solar system—that critics argue that we may never be able to build a collider powerful enough to find them, even the collider that Arkland-Hamilton says up all night thinking about.

So here's the latest tally. Number of years since string theory be-

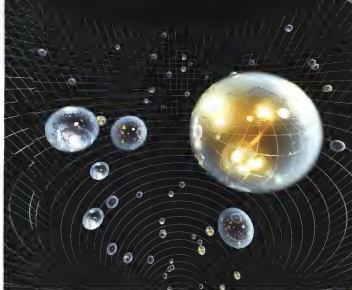
came dominant: 20. Number of potential string-theory solutions:  $10^{500}$  (the number of stars in the galaxy squared and then squared again). Number of testable theories: 0. In other words, Arkland-Hamilton better be at least partially right, because the natives are getting restless.

IF THE PROBLEM WITH STRING THEORY is, as some critics claim, is that it's a closed-minded boys' club whose lifetime members hopelessly shuffle and recode the same dead-end equations at moments when the solution may be found at the New Band, who in the usual Canadian college town of Windsor, the New Band has a decidedly grungy 1970s flair. Thirties-disco posters talk vinyl record reviews a filmbookly while DJs spin electronic and exoteric music next to the bedroom, wear the disco ball. And there, there are the physicists from the New Yorker Institute for Theoretical Physics who have made the New Band their watering hole. They talk theory

much like Mike Arland-Hamilton is now, not as the theory of the end times, in which our universe floats in space among an infinite number of other universes, each with a bubble exchangeable. Though not even someone who's happened to enter Arkland-Hamilton's office might be able to measure their events at different angles using quantum mechanics.

sometimes. But mostly they just bubble.

"You want to know the true story?" greets a young postdoctoral researcher at three o'clock on a rainy day but when only had things can happen. "It's the post-9/11 discourse." Just like the rest of America, he continues, the science establishment is confused by a tragedy that new. It doesn't want to consider any alternatives. "The string theorists just went back to their usual ideas." At this, the rest of the table's mixed group of young cosmologists, quantum information theorists, and quantum-gravity buffs—breaks into nervous laughter. Yes, they floundered a drunk. But he's right in a general sense, they concede. **THEORY** growing faster in the physics world between the hours.



BEST & WORST 2006

New Arkland-Hamilton David Gutterman, Juan Maldacena, Peter Horowitz and Lee Smolin, theoretical physicists









**Eric  
Loewen**  
CLASS OF '86

### Letter from an Alum

LAST YEAR, Loewen, nuclear engineer, showed us what it takes for a megaproject of "brightest-horizon" nuclear power plant ("Cray like of the 'Net"). Recently he sent us the following note:

Dear Eugene,

Empire High, active did—advancing from the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), his GE—Made in Wilmington, North Carolina. The INL is the reactor research laboratory. GE runs the reactor-deployment business. I'm spearheading GE's operations as the Department of Energy's (DOE)—Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) begins on long-term nuclear power while significantly reducing the large-scale nuclear-waste issue by recycling the waste's half-life.

The nuclear reactor is essential for the GNEP's advanced reactor "waste" while producing stable low-level electricity using indigenous resources to support nuclear fuel from our current 120-year-old U.S. nuclear power plants and nuclear weapons. This will significantly reduce the amount of waste to be stored in Yucca Mountain.

GE's PRISM reactor is called by nuclear leaders, can be factory-built in the U.S., and affordably energy safety systems that rely solely on gravity (a constant force for us earthlings). It is a small, non-fissionable reactor used as a test reactor to generate electricity and as a test reactor to generate electricity and as a test reactor to generate electricity.

By the way, it was last year's November 18th & 19th (last week) that I met John Rice of GE. We discussed the ideas presented in the article and exchanged business cards. I sent a my resume and now I'm in the GE family. Thank you, Eugene!

## ELIZABETH GOLDRING

The blind inventor of the seeing machine  
(BY CHRISTIAN DRENEDETTI)

IN A CLUTTERED OFFICE on the third floor of the MIT Museum building in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a blue-eyed woman in a white lab coat sits at a small wooden table. The box cobbled together out of household items is a "seeing machine." But inside it, some thing entirely new is at work.

As the woman—a physicist, age 46, stated in a recent interview for her new invention, she said she had been working on the machine for two years. It was a long process, she said, but she was now ready to show it to the world.

Goldring has battled diabetes since she was 10 and has had significant vision loss since the mid-1970s. During an interview two years ago, she told me that she had lost her vision in her left eye, but she was able to see an abstract shape formed into a long vertical line of light in her right eye. Her doctor was using a scanning laser light to help her see. She said she was "lucky" that her doctor noticed and she could see that, too. "I was fascinated," she recalls. "I knew this was something really important." She asked to try using it at home, but since the SL-1000 was a

By hearing images directly into the retina, the seeing machine could help people with severely damaged eyesight.



for sale at \$100,000, this was out of the question.

Goldring was undeterred. She believed the technology could be adapted to give people like her more vision. They have some useful tools to help them, but she was going to try to make them better. She contacted the SL-1000's inventor, Robert Welch of Harvard, and working with MIT students and doctors out of her small lab at MIT's Center for Advanced Visual Studies, she built a pair of devices that would prototype SL-1000s. The latest color model is the little gadget sitting before us. It costs around \$4,000.

Informal tests with ten subjects were successful, and Goldring is now experimenting with the concept of a tactile auditory and tactile elements. She might be able to use her machine to help people with other types of vision loss.

"I never want to cross a street wearing the seeing machine," she says. "But I've done it. I know what your grandkids look like. We can do that."

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### INVENTIONS 4



### [SYNTHETIC GECKO FEET]

THE GECKOS' ABILITY to seemingly stick to anything was a mystery until just four years ago, when scientists discovered the reptile's secret: billions of fillicious (so tiny that 100 can fit across the surface of a pin) hair-like structures called setae. The gecko's foot becomes the surface of the foot, and it's the setae that stick to the surface. In Italy, a British aerospace and defense firm, an inventor named Robyn Maynard developed a material with thousands of polyimide fillicious (the kind of foot hair) called Maynard's Met in Sets developed a similar version and used it to help his Gecko Tape in space. It was used to attach to the shuttle exterior (for example), outside of the airframe (for example) and even used to grip the glass for a support, and on the highway (just gecko-ing on it)—it's the 100th anniversary





On the human network, collaboration is suitable for ages 2 to 102. Welcome to a place where people everywhere are coming together to change the way we work, live, play and learn. Where mash-ups are reinventing everything from maps to music to medicine. A place where every opinion counts. And anyone can be a contributor. One network makes it all possible. The story continues at [cisco.com/humannetwork](http://cisco.com/humannetwork).

welcome to  
the human network.



## DETECTION

The satellite coverage of air-space is also at stake. "There's been a great deal of discussion about the need to upgrade all of our air-space surveillance systems to integrate our satellite imagery, thermal imaging, and other sensors to help us detect and track everything that moves within it."

## ADAPTABILITY

A container ship carries a wide biological threat is detected. This suggests an imminent date of events to find with the threat. The exact type of device and the threat capacity is quickly determined.

## ANALYSIS

The information is fed off to a ship-based center which contains all the data for a given sector of attack in New York. The center's software quickly determines the status of emergency resources and unknown information to begin identifying the location and to ensure a clear picture of what's going on. For instance, it will ping the National Weather Service to determine what weather conditions are in place for any given area.

## RESILIENCE

All of these systems are currently being tested. The idea is to have a system that can detect a threat, identify it, and then respond. The system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond. The system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond.

## COORDINATION

Now the system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond. The system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond. The system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond.

## SECURITY

This system is being tested. The idea is to have a system that can detect a threat, identify it, and then respond. The system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond. The system will be able to detect a threat, identify it, and then respond.

# THE AGE OF RESILIENCE

Or, how I learned to stop worrying and love global threats. Welcome to the Institute for Advanced Technologies in Global Resilience.

BY BRIAN MCKENNAH

We tend to believe what we see on television. So when we watch government agents racing to thwart a terrorist plot playing major roles on the computer, tapping into every sort of real-time video feed or voice recording, and cross-referencing that with a half dozen databases at a half dozen agencies, we figure that surely this is possible. The government should be so lucky. Hollywood has the right idea, but it's ahead of reality. People in the intelligence community baffle at the notion that they don't know how to "connect the dots." They did trade information before the September 11 attacks. They knew about Mohammed Atta. They knew about plans to attack America with airplanes. But they didn't have the capability to draw connections in a meaningful way.

And while Atta's name appeared in different databases, these databases couldn't talk to one another. What followed was plenty of hand-mapping and piecing-together. If we did only know.

But those days are by now and acted upon before it's too late. And Stephen DeAngelis believes he's found the key solution. That sounds a bit boring, but it means learning from and adapting

to threats rather than being devastated by them. Its potential applications are wide-ranging and profound: strengthening the American economy, protecting against terrorist threats, and even long-term climate. "We can't think of any other immediate threat that we're going to become as confident that we'll mitigate the danger," says DeAngelis, who runs Kinetic Solutions, a







**BEWARE OF AIDS**  
 • AVOID CASUAL SEX  
 OR  
 • USE A CONDOM  
**AIDS KILLS**

Don't die  
 YOUR (STAY COMMITTED)  
 BY JACQUES  
 RAYELA, 5'10"

SPREAD THE MESSAGE NOT THE VIRUS



and AIDS rates in sexual behavior—in the number of sexual partners, the types of sexual activities, and so on. But these differences, in fact, haven't changed sexual behavior. So what actually accounts for the gap's existence?

According to my research, the major difference is in its insurance rate of the virus. For anyone unprotected sex and relationship with an HIV-infected person, Africans are between four and five times more likely than Americans to become infected with HIV in the course. That's a fact relevant for virtually all of the difference in population-wide HIV rates in the two regions.

There is more than one reason why HIV spreads more easily in Africa than America, but the most important one seems to be related to the prevalence of other sexually transmitted infections. Research suggests that around 11 percent of individuals in Africa have untreated bacterial sexually transmitted infections at any given time, and close to half have the herpes virus. Because many of these infections cause open sores on the genitals, transmission of the HIV virus is much more efficient.

So what does learn from this? First, the fact that Africa is so heavily affected by HIV has very little to do with differences in sexual behavior and very much to do with differences in circumstances. Second, and perhaps more important, there is potential for significant reductions in HIV incidence in Africa through the treatment of other sexually transmitted diseases.

The HIV rates reported by the UN are about three times too high, which sounds like good news—but isn't.

Such an approach would cost around \$3.00 per person per week. Treating AIDS itself costs around \$300 per year. There are reasons to provide AIDS treatment in Africa, but cost-effectiveness is not one of them.

## 2) IT WON'T DISAPPEAR UNTIL POVERTY DOES

In the United States, the discovery of the HIV epidemic led to dramatic changes in sexual behavior. In Africa, it didn't. Yet in both places, encouraging safer sexual behavior has long been standard practice. Why hasn't the lesson caught on in Africa?

The lesson to think about why we expect people to change their behavior in response to HIV is more likely because, in a world with HIV, we can't see a larger risk of death than we do in a world without HIV. But how much people are about dying from AIDS ten years from now depends on how many years they expect to live today and how expensive they expect those future years to be.

My conclusion is that while there have been very limited changes in sexual behavior in Africa on average, Africans who are richer or who live in areas with higher life expectancy do show changed sexual behavior more. And men in Africa have responded in almost exactly the same way to the relative "life expectancy" survey men in the United States did in the 1980s. To put it bluntly, if life expectancy in Africa were the same as they are in the United States, we would see the same change in sexual behavior—and the AIDS epidemic would begin to slow.

## 3) THERE IS LESS OF IT THAN WE THOUGHT—BUT IT'S SPREADING AS FAST AS EVER

According to the UN, the HIV rates in Botswana and Zimbabwe are around 10 percent, and it's more than 10 percent in many other countries. These estimates are relied on by policymakers, researchers, and the popular press. Yet many people who study the AIDS epidemic believe that the numbers are inflated.

The reason is quite simple: bots who is tested. The UN's estimates are not based on diagnoses of whole populations or even a random sample. They are based on testing of pregnant women in prenatal clinics. And in Africa, usually, active women of childbearing age are the highest rates of HIV infection.

To illustrate the bias, I took a new approach to estimating the HIV infection rate. I assumed it from mortality data. The idea is simple. In a world without HIV, we have a sense of expectation of what the death rate will be. In a world with HIV, we observe the actual death rate to be higher. The difference between the two gives an estimate of the number of people who have died from AIDS, and we can use that figure to estimate the prevalence of HIV in the population.

My work suggests that the HIV rates reported by the UN are about three times too high. Which sounds like good news—but isn't. The actual number of HIV-positive people is lower than we thought, but my study, which extracted changes in the infection rate over time, also drew a second, chilling conclusion: In Africa, HIV is spreading as quickly as ever.



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An Esquire investigation into people who are really good at what they do

# N

[illegible]

These Are Our Most  
Liberopragmatic  
Neoclassical  
Economists  
Stephen A. Horrell  
Congressional  
Patronage  
Public Service  
Conservative  
Initiative



Congresswoman Stephanie Harwell of South Dakota, above, is an example of Democratic efforts to attract party-line as well as thoughtful (read that's new) voters in Washington. Sen. Tim Wirth, below, superintendent of the St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, schools, knew that if people had to come back to St. Bernard Parish, he'd be the first to open himself to make sure that didn't happen.

the first completely synthetic treatment for cancer. With a highly logical and often funny, Meyers is married for twenty years to a theoretical physicist, the met at MIT, she was unable to have children. Meyers, she thinks, she was meant to do that instead. Or maybe, she says, like the third of six sisters she played as her last actress, Hester. "I don't like that to be a last-of-her-kind and resigned not to ask her to give it up, but they can't ask for three-and-a-half years. So one time she was out there, pregnant and she thought, 'Maybe nothing I have done will survive, maybe the number six will come to nothing, maybe maybe I won't survive, maybe the number six will not survive.' So this might be the last thing I suggest that I've ever said. I'm not a prophet, but I'm a woman, and I'm pregnant."

"It's not like being with a capital D for something," she says, "because some thing, Amy, it happens, it spreads down, you know."

**STAY APPROXIMATE** New Orleans from the north, passing the airport and into the middle suburbs, all the warm and beautiful and stretchy gas and bonus-lake just fine. Brown barked-groove as you cross the bridge into the downtown area—a lovely-looking view from here and there, that's all. And when you pull up to the Sheraton and hand your keys to the valet and wait for me into the Pines & Quincey poscan all night, down Bourbon Street with a drink in your hand and follow me to about half a mile to Antoine's for the great Penchew-brown. As home, really, to order.

Then I'm on my way back to staying in some gay on Fox News and all about how New Orleans, made a home to look like, but I don't see any

FEMA told Voitier that temporary schools would take six months. "To heck with y'all," she said. "We'll do it ourselves and send you the bill."

of the women is to come to work. Diane Vetter, superintendent of the St. Bernard Parish public school system, says, "I walk out and look across the TV screen and women are here—adults—'How can I hook up with New Orleans Publics,' she says." "I'm on St. Bernard Public. We had our first in a month." The Ten-year-old and says, "We'll be in general speaking as education, not a time for the New Orleans Public to accept other teachers?"

Public has been running, Vetter has her eyes on the line in St. Bernard Parish, where the problem isn't "bad schools but the stress and mismanagement of the St. Bernard Public."

The teachers are not the best but the best school is the school that is not the best. Our kids were in a school that is a good school, school testing. We're finally found, we're managed well, we're very proud of our schools."

Worner grew up in a street corner made famous by a jazz solo. Her father was a headliner for Bluey Long. She started teaching mothers St. Bernard Parish in 1975, figuring she'd put in a couple of years and then do something more ambitious—in the education of those early first graders. So, becoming a teacher seemed almost like fate. But she found out she loved to teach, and since she never married or had children, that definitely made it more a vocation than a job. To make a difference in the life of a child, even to first graders. She saw slowly through the system and by the time of Katrina, she realized that schools didn't serve exactly right-handed kids.

Voeder rode out the storm in Charlotte High School during last year's hauled-out annual, cheering Boer out to scavenge for food and water. Four days passed before they got the first animal, a little Canada marten and rescue pet that showed a pair of newborns. But Voeder had lived in her government and when FEMA left her I could throw up a temporary modular school in six days, she made a phone. When the first child came back to St. Bernard Parish, she would have a school year to educate his child. FEMA did nothing. There was no help, but she said the temporary schools would usually take six months or longer. Voeder had her breakthrough. Nobody could come back to a community without a car. If no more than five people would get settled in new communities, St. Bernard Parish would be "The tri-city with car," she said. "We didn't have cars and used to be the tri-city."

Working with his group of computer-nerd teens along with the local sheriff and firemen and congressmen, some of whom also had taught math—Wainwright found some powerful eleventh-hour backlinks to George and Caroline and found a local contractor to set them up and tracked down her husband's long-traveling and found trailers for the family residence in and took out a Consumer Disaster Loan to help pay for a [pharmaceutical distribution company](#) with a debt of \$150 million overnight. [We did it all with our own private website](#) the Internet or money was in Louisiana.







## ZEUS FOOTBALL

One program (and three things) every coach should know **BY BUDDY KITE**

**F**OR THE RECORD, the Washington Redskins were trailing the Minnesota Vikings by 14 points with four minutes and 10 seconds remaining in the third quarter. Facing a fourth-down and three yards on the Vikings' four-yard line, the Redskins decided to do what most NFL teams routinely do in this situation: take the "game-winning" game and not the game. But according to three guys named Chuck, Frank, and Ray, the Redskins couldn't have been more wrong.

Or more precisely, that's the conclusion of software developed by sports-philosophy researcher Charles Downs, fifty-three, along with partner Frank Fraga, forty-four, and Ray Damschke, thirty-three. Their system, ZEUS Football, is a play-calling program that combines game theory, computer modeling, and massive NFL statistics database to provide coaches with real-time advice on critical calls. The user enters statistical input—downs, yardage, quarter, time—and ZEUS issues a command to handoff or more play simultaneously in a matter of seconds.

The often-counterintuitive results are expressed in Game-Winning Chance (GWC) percentage. ZEUS could state how football is coached and played. But since the NFL currently prohibits any computer aids on the side lines or in the booth (it's being patched as a postgame analysis and positive tool for coaches. Even if the league never embraces it, however, thank Chuck, Frank, and Ray for elevating amateur play to a hard science. (They provide analysis of play-calling decisions during the season at [playinformed.com](http://playinformed.com).)

The word came ZEUS to draw up three of its most surprising conclusions from its database of play-calling errors over recent seasons:

### 1. ALWAYS (ALMOST) GO FOR IT ON FOURTH AND SHORT

Give the lowest-ranked offense in the NFL a 1-in-4 chance to succeed on fourth and one. According to ZEUS, the significant gain in GWC at converting the fourth down for running backs (a 1-in-4 chance) is more evident than at the end of a long offensive drive (a 1-in-4 chance) opposing territory, where a coach feels he must have

Joe Stites and the Redskins facing the Vikings earlier this season. America's fourth-down call is then a self-defender to team 2005.

some thing to show for his efforts and the team has a field goal. Known as the Reddick case, with Washington facing fourth and three, the team squandered nearly 4 percent expected GWC by kicking the field goal and not going for the first down. If 4 percent doesn't sound like much to consider, that only was one of the magnitude percentage will cost a team one full game per season on average.

Similarly, between average and equal opponents, choosing to punt on fourth and one is rarely the better option. With the exception of a few circumstances (when kicking by less than a touchdown very late in the second or fourth quarters and holding poor field position), or if there are extreme offensive and defensive skill differences, leave the punting unit on the bench.

### 2. USE THE ONSIDE KICK MUCH MORE FREQUENTLY

Traditionally a desperation measure, the onside kick can optimize a team's chance of winning in a broader range of circumstances. There's only a small variation in potential outcomes. The ball is almost always recovered or recovered within a hand of ten to fifteen yards. Using a conservative recovery rate of 22 percent for the kicking team, ZEUS suggests this strategy is used less than half as often as it should be.

### 3. IN KICKING, STRENGTH TRUMPS ACCURACY

That kickers are typically judged on what is believed to be two equally relevant metrics: kickoff strength and field-goal accuracy. But ZEUS demonstrates that a hypothetical team with the league's best performer in kickoff distance and the worst performer in field-goal accuracy would win more games than a team with the opposite. Put another way: A top performer in kickoff distance with poor field-goal accuracy is 2 percent more likely to win a game than a weak performer in kickoff distance with the league's most accurate leg.

WHAT IF EVERY GLASS OF WATER YOU DRANK QUENCHED SOMEONE ELSE'S THIRST?



Clean and plentiful drinking water is an everyday privilege millions take for granted. Yet the lack of clean and accessible drinking water is one of the most urgent health crises facing less privileged children and families today.

Which is why on World Water Day, March 22, 2007, in conjunction with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, hundreds of restaurants will ask you to donate \$1 for the tap water you normally enjoy for free. It starts in New York and will spread to cities across the world. It's not much to ask, but it could mean so much to others.

To find out more, please visit [TAPPROJECT.ORG](http://TAPPROJECT.ORG)

unicef

HEAT &  
ELECTRICITY

Greg Kinnear, comedian  
Lightbulb Leech, filmmaker  
Ashley Judd, actress  
Frodo Baggins, star

# DRINK, JOKE, WOMAN

An unruly quest. In Los Angeles,

» BY COLBY BUZZELL

**A**re there philosophers in L.A.? Because I was about to say that philosophers spend their whole lives looking, mostly without success, for what I was looking for: joy. Something funny. Something that makes you happy. A little beauty. Talent.

I am not a philosopher. I live in Los Angeles. I needed help.

So west on Sunset, left on La Brea, south till Wilshire, turn right and follow that west all the way to Beverly Hills to meet an entertainment agent, a Mr. Scheff, in high hopes that he might be able to help me out a little bit with my search here in the only mecca of American culture, where talent from all over the world flocks to make it big. A place that from L.A. here I would go so far as to say is the last place you'd want to look for talent. But that's just me.

Once I passed the ICM building on Wilshire, I knew I had entered the 90210.

because I started to notice I was now sharing the road with Ferraris, a couple Bentleys, a Lotus, and a dilapidated off-beat model Mercedes.

Lately I've noticed a lot of Mercedes in my neighborhood. You see the silver diesel ones—this place down the street from where I live does such-an-business converting diesel Mercedes to run on vegetable oil—you even get [www.fishbase.org/stock.htm](http://www.fishbase.org/stock.htm) that read, POWERED BY 100% VEGETABLE OIL when you push the switch.

While I was shifting, sitting, and slipping... Elsewhere in stop-and-go traffic, I noticed I still led on the bright, fluorescent exit from the gash that I'd given to the right before. I don't go to garb clubs; that's not my thing; never has been and never will be, but last night I went out alone—trying to get myself to a new-to-me club on the Sunset Strip (you gotta find out what goes on there—and I did) for a few million trying to get into the Equine charity house in Beverly Hills. Demand. Languiary shout, fluorescent under-lights at an industrial gash club on Hollywood Boulevard. It was one of the only clubs I could find that would let me in...  


The last club I tried to penetrate, I kicked the doorman why? couldn't get in and all he said was, "I'm not a member." (The doorman said, "I'm not a member.")

I do my best thinking where alcohol is served and am generally very happy in a dark bar. But once inside that club I noticed that I was the only one there not dressed all in black with an unhealthy fascination with mortality, affliction and death culture.

have tons of money, and during the day you would never guess that they are like that. Some work corporate jobs, a lot are graphic designers, and at night they like change the outside look and come here." Maybe that's what I need to do, to make my own thing, I thought as I looked at a new waitress who sat at the

MR SCHIFF

PAUL BROWN had undergone parking surgery before the building and followed the visitor parking sign down to the vehicle on the lower level, where I saw red carpeting leading to a velvet rope. Behind that, parked at an angle, took up three whole parking spots, was a mini Rolls-Royce, worth more than a four-bedroom house in most states. The visitor asked me if I was there for a delivery. I told him no.

My first impression of Mr. Slichto I find I have was nothing like the stereotypical Halliburton person depicted in movies—although he did have one of those hands free headsets on which he probably remained once we walked down and began talking. He wore a dark suit I put on later, and a dark tie. He was the kind of black-necked white, muscular man, the eight-to-ten-year-old son of a banker, was probably, a New Yorker.

"So what exactly do you do?" I asked.

"Well, I was on a grant for many many years, and I started this company about sixteen months ago. It's a talent management company and we represent primarily for movies and television, film, and also media the networks-related work of Ernie, Gwen Stefani, Justin Timberlake, Pharrell, Jay-Z, Kanye West, Jeff Bridges, Wesley Snipes, a whole bunch of writers and directors. We represent on Internet stuff as well, which is like a virtual hit parade. MTV, NBC, Universal, Interscope, Warner Music make whole bunch of their people here involved in it and believe it or not. We are consultants for on-line market-commerce business, which, if you're working corporate, themselves and you want to be a whole lot like Microsoft, shareholder wanting to come on the Web site, click and buy it. We're making a lot of money. I'm doing a lot of things. New York called it, 'Star Partners.' We're doing a lot of things. It's a lot of things. But primarily the core of our business is to be talent representative. We manage the careers of four clients."

Not that anybody ever does, but when people ask me, "What do you do?" (a question I ask myself daily), I usually answer with a simple "Hing out" or "You're looking at it." Both of which are true, and it never seems to shock anyone, which is probably the main reason I answered to L.A.

I grew up in northern California, and seven or eight years ago, a friend and I went on a road trip to Los Angeles. It was the first time for both of us, and we visited for about a week, and the entire time sensed something very odd about the place. I couldn't quite put my finger on it until about the third or fourth day. We were driving around some neighborhood near Hollywood, and we passed by this coffee shop with outdoor seating packed with people all wearing sunglasses. None of them looked like they were on a lunch break. I asked my friend what day of the week it was, and he told me that that day was a

and "Wednesday," he said, and I was like, "Shouldn't these people be at work, or going to something?" It was like everybody here just seemed to be hanging out every day like it was Saturday.

As shortly after the road trip, I packed my bags and suggested to L.A. I wanted to be moved there.

Mr. Schiff got up from his seat and introduced them to me, told them I was from *Esquire* and disappointed about Los Angeles for the 2006 Best & Realtest issue.

I had a piece of scrap paper with me that I had written down my assignments on, and I read it out loud to them. "In search of things that make it good to be alive. In search of talent. Drink, pain, women. Cultural stuff off L.A." That's not, and I asked them for help in finding talent here in L.A., since that was what their profession entailed.

Jack answered first, "To be honest with you, most of our talent that we've signed in the last year has come from New York, Detroit, Australia, and Hong Kong. I don't think we've signed anybody who was a Los Angeles native or who's actually been on South Coast radio. Unless they were, weren't they?"

We sat around and talked for a while about talent and where we find it here, and it seemed like a lot of the ones to look out for were all from somewhere but here.

—“Everybody is an actor in L.A., and half of them are just off the boat from Kansas,” said Jack. “And for every tairing rule that gets cast, there’s five hundred people who audition for it: Who’s gonna be the L.A. because we don’t have to compete with everybody. Here, everyone is the same biscuit. If you go to New York or you go to London, you’re finding out that that nobody even knew was there.”

We all agreed that when you go out looking for talent or Best 50 players or whatever term it is, A. and you start asking around for it, you often whoever you're talking to will tell you they're the best. I asked them where they were from, and they all said New York.

himself brought up how Asia was going to blow up for him, and Jack told me about a client of his, Edison Chen, "who is crazily going to be here in a half hour. He literally has to come the only guest of China, and I can go on for an hour on how many things he has to do in the post-culture world, from the number-one

Yes, number-one movies like *It's a Wonderful Life* have TV shows over there, which they've done of *Pandora's Box* and *Jackie*—which is three numbers—on a night. I guess shows on MTV. So like, it means this work became the most loved in *The Grange*. I like, last night we go and see the *Departed*, they had a little screening, and he actually played a Matt Damon role in the original Chinese version of the movie—this is how I know he is going to most often—so we go there, at all the thirty-seventh of these people who were waiting for an opportunity to return to Edmond and the popcorn! knew who he was, and I signed his thirty-seventh, and this one guy who kept saying over some white guy—and he was like, I loved you in *Jackie* and *Edmond*! *Edmond*! and this one.

Scott, who does all the music for *Entourage*, recommended a band from Whittier (southeast of L.A.) called Cold War Kids, as well as























© A.J. Jacobs is a fictionist and  
author of *The Know-It-All*. His  
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# A.J. JACOBS

Author of *The Know-It-All*, *Don't Make Me a Humble Guest to Become the Smartest Person in the World*

I've done some things I'm not proud of. I've performed the "crazy eyes" at Club Med. I've read sex and Ayn Rand novels. I've worn ear clips. But among the more shameful was my participation in a trend called "reverse black ice." You remember this one. In the late eighties, male celebrities started showing up at awards ceremonies in tuxedos with bullet holes and paisley cummerbunds. The trend somehow crept down to my high school. My friends started wearing shiny blue blazer jackets. Waistcoats with T-shirts. Ties and Camisole high-tops.

As I read, I'm far from blameless. In my sophomore year of high school, I found a black morning jacket in a vintage-dressing store in Greenwich Village for twenty-five dollars. It was a nice thing, shredded at the edges. I wish I could say it was reminiscent of Macaulay's snide and failed assassination, but it really just smelled like mold from a craggy vintage-climbing store in Greenwich Village. I wore it—accompanied by blue jeans, a white Guy Fawkes, and black sneakers—on my junior year with *New Yorker*.

I thought I looked sophisticated but dangerous, like a man who'd been the Kipper Diet, really. I'd had like a halo in search of a handle and a nuclear Groucho mustache? I did not lose my virginity that night. Nowadays, I'm not a generic man. I bought a department store. It's one of those brands called *Anniversary Club* or something. But it's a step forward. Plus, I no longer wear ear clips.

—A.J.J.

Black tuxedo and trousers (Jil Sander) and shirt (Jil Sander) by Jil Sander; vest (Jil Sander) by Jil Sander; tie (Jil Sander) by Jil Sander; shoes (Jil Sander) by Jil Sander.















## The Making of "The Making of..."

BY JONATHAN STERN

AL: Hi. I'm Adam Lichtenstein. I directed this behind-the-scenes video.

RS: And I'm Richard Sliott. I was the DP.

AL: Or "Director of Photography."

RS: Or just "cammie."

AL: Or "hey you!"

[Laughter]

AL: And if you're listening to us now that means you're watching the bonus extras on your DVD of *The Making of Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*. And that you've also selected the "Director's Commentary" option.

RS: Hopefully on purpose!

[Laughter]

WH: And I'm Bill Hennis.

AL: Right, that's in WR, our production assistant.

WH: Audio engineer.

AL: How, audio engineer? Okay—the first sequence is an interview with Kevin McNally. He played ops. I think this was a difficult scene to pull off. We only had Kevin for a few minutes and the second assistant director went hovering the whole time.

RS: We completely broke the chain five hours earlier! Used an issue for a backlight and a pocket par for M!

WH: And a Sennheiser 12 leveler, too. Wireless.

AL: We were trying to create a specific look for the interview set in addition to an overall continuity, so the viewer will feel as if they're getting comfortable. Each interview would be different but still part of the whole.

WH: Would have been great if we'd gotten an interview with Johnny Depp.

AL: Okay—now you're watching where the camera has a second fight.

RS: This was an amazing lens, 150mm.

WH: They wouldn't let us anywhere near the set.

AL: They said we wouldn't be safe around all the stuntmen and explosions.

WH: And Kasey Knightley said we made her "unusable table."

AL: Nice backlighting.

RS: That's the idea again.

[Laughter]

WH: You can see Kasey Knightley in the background there, getting her hair touched up.

AL: We had some footage of the night but decided not to use it. It just showed things down the street with these "Making of" people to keep it moving. If the audience gets up to go to the bathroom, we've lost the it.

WH: Though I guess that doesn't really matter since they've already paid the money for the DVD.

[Silence]



RS: I wish all Pirates Special Effects with the convenience of AL. Those were real camcorders. I heard someone say

RS: I've heard people doing special effects on at least six different TV movies, and I can tell you, this was by far the most complex.

AL: Here we're interviewing elements like Gary Verbeeten. This was a real "get" as we call it in the EFX business.

RS: The audience might not know what EFX stands for. Multiple Infrared Flares for it's funny—we have a language all our own out there working on a film set.

RS: "Copy that?"

[Laughter]

RS: That's the end!

[Applause]

AL: To end the piece, we shot the last take of the whole movie, where the assistant director calls "It's a wrap!" You can see the 14 men hanging—Johnny Orlando.

WH: They actually allowed issue set for this scene.

RS: We went for audience to feel they were at the moment with us at the end of a long, hard, fun job. Really part of the family.

AL: I tell you after four months in the Bahamas with these people, I was beginning to feel like I was part of the family myself.

RS: I understand there was a big wrap party after that night but there's no footage of that.

AL: We were staying at a different hotel.

WH: [Richard] Johnny Depp showed up, so

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